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THE TIMES

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45p



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STAYING OUT OF TROUBLE

Is President Boris Yeltsin, at the end of his first tumultuous year in office, good enough Life & Times Page 1

Campaign to calm backbenchers

Major will defy Tory rebels by backing Delors

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is expected to defy many of his Conservative backbenchers by strongly backing the reappointment of Jacques Delors as the European Commission president for a further two years.

In a meeting today with business managers and at Thursday's cabinet meeting, the prime minister will try to regain his grip on the party before it drifts into wide-spread revolt over Europe.

Senior government sources insist he remains committed to the Maastricht treaty and accepts the continued presidency of M Delors, although he believes that both issues

are misunderstood by some Tory MPs.

He meets Richard Ryder, the chief whip, Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons, and Lord Wakeham, the Leader of the Lords, today to chart ways of calming the fevered atmosphere on the Conservative benches.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, continues his talks with other EC foreign ministers on the way forward for the Maastricht treaty in the wake of Denmark's "no" vote.

Tomorrow Mr Major seems certain to face tough questions in the Commons on his stance. On Thursday, which is also the day of the Irish referendum on Maastricht, the prime minister is expected to ask the cabinet to back the reappointment of M Delors for a further two years at the Lisbon EC summit in a fortnight. He is likely to report the outcome to the Portuguese prime minister, Anibal Cavaco Silva, at a meeting in Downing Street.

The prime minister has ordered a marketing exercise by ministers - and whips - to "sell" the merits of the Maastricht treaty and to halt the campaign by Euro-sceptics to "demonise" M Delors. Government sources speak of his pragmatism and integrity.

The points to be hammered home in the next two weeks before the Lisbon EC summit are that, without Maastricht, the Commission will continue to meddle in every nook and cranny of each nation state's affairs, and that there is no acceptable alternative to M Delors.

After his week's absence from the Commons, visiting the United States, Colombia and the Earth summit in Brazil, Mr Major faces one of the most testing periods of his leadership in his apparent



History in the shade: an umbrella carried by soldiers of the Queen's Regiment shielding the Magna Carta as it was taken to Canterbury Cathedral yesterday for the annual service commemorating the signing of the document by King John on June 15, 1215

End in sight for hostages

The Germans Heinrich Struëbig and Thomas Kempner, the last foreigners held hostage in Lebanon, are believed to be close to freedom after spending 1,128 days in captivity.

Reports from Beirut, Damascus and Bonn, a prediction in the *Tehran Times*, and the arrival in the Syrian capital of Glandomencio Pico, the veteran United Nations negotiator, all point to the fact that similar procedures are being followed as in the cases of the nine other hostages freed last year. Page 18

Publicans go to court

Publicans who are facing eviction by the big breweries are mounting a series of last-ditch battles in the courts to save their public houses, which in many cases are also their homes.

The publicans accused brewers of demanding unreasonable rents, but Allied, Bass, Grand Metropolitan and Whitbread say criticisms are unjustified. Page 6

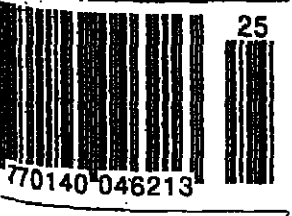
Serbia protest

Stobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, faced mounting opposition in Belgrade as the Orthodox Church led a procession of about 10,000 people through the city. Page 11

Banks' shame

Maxwell pensioners have been told that banks and financial institutions, eager to save their consciences over the Maxwell affair, are likely to come forward with large donations. Page 19

Births, marriages, deaths	16,17
Crossword	18
Letters	15
Obituaries	17
Sport	26-32
Weather	18
Arts	2,3
Education	9
Motoring	7
Concise Crossword	11
TV & radio	12



Talks on Ulster future take a step forward

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A NEW agreement on Northern Ireland will move nearer reality this week when, for the first time since the partition of Ireland, representatives of all shades of Unionist opinion will meet the Irish republic's government.

The breakthrough came at the weekend after the four Northern Ireland parties at Stormont agreed to hold a preliminary meeting in the format of the second phase of talks, involving direct representatives of the British and Irish governments. The meeting, to be chaired by Sir Ninian Stephen, the former governor general of Australia,

does not equal formal transition to the second phase, but there is growing acceptance that it is half way there.

Discussion is likely to focus on Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution, claiming Northern Ireland, and the Government of Ireland Act.

Disagreements over the first phase remain. The SDLP is sticking largely to its idea of a six-member commission to govern Northern Ireland, but unionists and the Alliance party prefer an assembly and committees.

New phase, page 5
Leading article, page 15

Rio accord endorses plan to save Earth

FROM MICHAEL MCCARTHY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

THE Earth summit ended yesterday with more than 100 world leaders endorsing a philosophy to save the planet, and a programme to put it into practice.

In an agreement that confounded many environmentalists who had thought it would never happen, they sanctioned the worldwide pursuit of sustainable development or green growth, as the only viable response to Third World poverty and global environmental degradation.

At the climax of an unprecedented gathering, more heads of state and government than ever assembled in one place before, led by President Collor de Mello of Brazil, adopted a sustainable development charter, an extensive work programme, and a new United Nations body to supervise its implementation. It also made arrangements for partial funding of the package with new limited environmental aid for developing countries.

In doing so they gave a spectacular political endorsement to the analysis of the 1987 report of the UN Commission chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, the prime minister of Norway. The report said that the world's unceasing economic growth and

Continued on page 18, col 6

Sliver of history, page 2
Dangerous Delors, page 14
Letters, page 15
Economic View, page 21

Mellor apologises to mayor of Malmo for football violence

FROM JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT IN MALMO

THE government officially apologised to the mayor of Malmo yesterday following the worst outbreak of violence for two years involving travelling English football supporters.

After a night of orchestrated hooliganism by some 200 supporters in the early hours of yesterday, David Mellor, national heritage secretary, apologised verbally and in writing for their "deplorable" behaviour.

Mr Mellor, in Malmo yesterday to watch England's 0-0 draw with France in the European Championships, said: "When I came here I did not expect to spend half my time apologising."

It is the worst incident of hooliganism involving England followers since the 1990 World Cup when 247 were deported from Italy after fighting in a bar in Rimini and it is the third successive European Championship in which England have participated.



Mellor: said that beer tents were a bad idea

ated and which there have been outbreaks of violence.

Only eight people have been charged following the disturbances - which began just after midnight and caused damage to shops and cars in the city centre - largely because the police were overwhelmed for some time by the suddenness of the violence.

Last night as the England followers prepared to make their way to Stockholm for the game on Wednesday against Sweden, there were 1,000 officers on the streets and at the railway station. Inspector Eva Westford said: "We must show that we will not tolerate such behaviour again."

Mr Mellor, who arrived here on Saturday night, said that he had watched video footage of the violence. "It does not make very pleasant viewing. I hope that it is an isolated incident. However, it is a scar on what had been a better image of English football." He said that many thousands of supporters had behaved well and the Swedish police had tried not to apply a "heavy hand".

Mr Mellor said the British government had expressed serious reservations about the cheap beer tents. "We would have preferred not to have had them, and our attitude is mirrored in the Council of Europe." The trouble began in a central square just after midnight when two supporters, one of whom has been arrested and the other, a man believed to be a Norwegian

neo-Nazi belonging to an organisation the Aryan Brotherhood, climbed onto the roof of the tent where hundreds of England supporters were drinking. They led other groups of England supporters in chanting and when a small detachment of police arrived they jumped to ground. A whistle was blown and about 60 England supporters began throwing bottles and cans at the officers.

Experiment scrapped, page 3
England draw, page 32

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What's French for 'check my carburettor'?

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT



THE lure of French food and wine at low prices has for years sent the British scurrying across the Channel in their thousands. Now the canny Channel-hopper is applying that same Gallic thrift to the family car.

Ferry companies have traced a swell in the number of day-trippers who combine their raids on supermarkets by having their car serviced at prices which could be up to £40 cheaper than at home. The better-organised driver drops his car off at a local garage before going for lunch and a tour of the shops, picking up the vehicle for the return journey by ferry or hovercraft.

Sealink Stena says the numbers of motorists going abroad has risen rapidly, with many saying that the savings on the servicing pay for the crossing and a lunch. A spokesman said yesterday:

"Motorists tell us that £70 worth of work in the UK can cost just £30 at some French garages." The Automobile Association, which rescued 25,000 motorists in Europe last year, says motorists who do not know their freins (brakes) from their moteur (engine) should beware the possible pitfalls. "If you do not know the language well, then you could face all kinds of problems trying to point out a rattle or squeak. And what do you do if something goes wrong? You can hardly take the car back next day to complain."

The Retail Motor Industry Federation, which represents 12,000 British garage dealers, says that motorists should be certain that work will be as well done as that carried out in Britain and that warranties on new cars were not invalidated. Geoff Dossetter, the RMI's spokesman, gave a warning that owners of specialist cars particularly might find themselves in difficulties

with an unknown foreign dealer. But David Moxey, a freelance photographer with a holiday home in Brittany, said labour charges for servicing his Peugeot 205 in France were £9 an hour. In Britain that figure would be on average £30 to £35 and in central London as much as £39.

Drivers are advised not to assume their car can be serviced abroad. Although there are plenty of dealers for the major French makes, such as Peugeot, Renault and Citroën, others may be widely dispersed and difficult to find. Ford and Vauxhall (trading as Opel) are well represented. Rover less so, but owners of Japanese cars, popular in Britain, will have a difficult time. Japanese cars account for only 3 per cent of sales in France, so do not expect a Nissan dealer on every street corner.

Service breaks, page 6
Leading article, page 15

Ministers rethink budgets as fears for Euro plane grow

THE increase in cost for Britain of the European Fighter Aircraft (EFA), if Germany withdraws from the four-nation project, could upset the whole defence equipment programme. Other collaborative projects could also run into trouble.

Ministers are having to consider whether some defence programmes may have to be shelved or cancelled because of the six per cent cut in the overall budget over the next three years and when the Treasury's budgeting with the Chancellor's autumn statement, defence is expected to be high on the list for possible further cutbacks.

The defence ministry has estimated that Britain's total expenditure on the development, production, operation and support of the European Fighter Aircraft over the whole life cycle of the plane will be about £20 billion at 1991 prices. Development and production of 250 fighters for the RAF will account for about half of that figure.

If Germany withdraws, one conservative estimate is that Britain's share of the costs will rise by 12 per cent, adding at least another £1 billion to the fighter bill. With an annual defence procurement

Michael Evans reports on the likely upheavals if Germany quits the European Fighter Aircraft project

budget of about £9 billion, an extra £1 billion for one programme, even one as important as EFA, could put an intolerable strain on other projects, regarded as equally vital for Britain's defence requirements.

There is also a fear that as Britain's alliance partners adjust their defence budgets to suit the new post-Cold War environment, other nations participating in joint defence programmes may decide to opt out.

Britain is involved in 39 different collaborative projects. They include the multiple launch rocket system with France, Germany, Italy and the United States; a warship inertial navigation system with Canada, Holland and Spain; the Trigat anti-tank guided weapon with France, Germany and Holland; and the EH101 helicopter with Italy.

Britain and France have also taken the first steps towards designing a new anti-air warfare frigate together.

This is to replace the Royal Navy's Type 42 destroyers. Cost will be a crucial element in deciding finally whether this joint programme will move ahead to development and production. So far, France has only indicated a requirement for between four and six new frigates. The Royal Navy wants 12.

This project replaced an over-ambitious, eight-nation collaborative programme called NFR90 which would have cost £12 billion and was abandoned by all partners in 1989. British defence ministers are pinning their hopes on creating a cost effective programme with the French, aware that Britain cannot afford to go on building warships on her own, especially when the export market for sophisticated naval vessels is limited.

Jonathan Aitken, the new defence procurement minister, has questioned the justification for many of the large equipment projects which have already absorbed large sums in their early stages of development. He arrived at the ministry fairly sceptical about the need for EFA but has changed his mind.

Similarly, there is no wavering on the government's side over the need for a fourth Trident ballistic missile submarine, although the defence ministry appears to be in no hurry to complete the negotiations for the last boat.

However, the ministry will need to make savings somewhere because the equipment budget absorbs about one third of defence spending. The difficulty for the government is that it is committed to so many key defence programmes, that it is no easy task to find equipment projects that can be swiftly scrapped.

One of the pledges during the election campaign was to give the Royal Navy a new amphibious capability, with assault ships to replace HMS Intrepid and HMS Fearless, and a helicopter support ship. However, there is no sign of an order yet.

One "commitment" that seems likely to fall by the wayside is the replacement for the free fall nuclear bomb. Plans to buy a tactical missile system, which could cost more than £2 billion, are increasingly coming under fire from ministry officials who see little justification for going ahead with such a weapon.

Mr Aitken hinted at the possible demise of the system in a recent written Commons when he said that the ministry was looking at the possibility of using Trident in both a strategic and sub-strategic deterrent role.



Taking it to the top: three Greenpeace activists yesterday climbed Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square in protest over what they claimed was lack of action at the Earth summit. John Stevenson, 34, of Sheffield, said after climbing down from the 170ft column: "It was very tiring to get up, but we think our protest was worth it." Martin Cotterell of Wolverhampton, West Midlands and Joe

Simpson of Sheffield also took part. Chris Rose of Greenpeace said: "The Earth summit was a failure. The words were there but the action was lacking." A police spokesman said that the climbers would be reported to the environment department.

Nations shamed, page 12
Leading article, page 15

OFT enquiry launched into Wimbledon tickets

BY ADAM FRESCO

TICKET allocation for the Wimbledon tennis championships is to be investigated by the Office of Fair Trading following a complaint to Sir Leon Brittan, EC commissioner for competition, it was disclosed last night.

Mike Burton, the former England and British Lions rugby player who runs a corporate hospitality firm, has accused the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club of unfair trading practices.

Mr Burton says that the All England Club can buy debenture tickets at up to 15 times their face value and sell them on at a profit while preventing the main allocation of tickets from being resold or passed on to another party.

A debenture costs £19,250 and lasts for five years. It is quoted on the stock exchange, and guarantees a daily centre court ticket included in the original price.

The All England Club prevents tickets, other than debenture tickets, being resold, like those gained through the public ballot. The club keeps a computer record of ticket-buyers and only the buyers are allowed to use the tickets.

The All England Club sends tickets at face value to 40 organisations including the Players Association, officials, overseas package tours, schools, foreign tennis associations, tennis clubs around

the country and to members of the All England Lawn Tennis Club. The club also issues tickets to individuals through a public ballot, and to official corporate hospitality firms.

A Centre Court ticket for the men's singles final has a face value of £46. The All England Club will offer a debenture holder £700 to buy the ticket back and then resell it to their own corporate clients for £890. The club says that the profit is put back into the game.

Mr Burton says that the club is forcing up the prices of debenture tickets while putting a block on tickets being resold and resold from any other source and that the only ones that are gaining from the rules are the 2,100 debenture holders and the All England Club.

He said: "What they are doing by laying down this condition on the ordinary citizen is denying them the right to do exactly what they want with something they have paid for. They are seeking to retain control over something that they have sold."

"They are guaranteeing to buy back something they have sold at a higher price. I can now only buy debenture tickets which have been forced up in price so my clients are having to pay more and that is wrong," Christopher Gorringer, the club's chief executive, said yesterday.

that the rules were designed to protect real tennis fans and to stop people who get tickets other than through debenture holders from selling them on to the highest bidder.

"I will be discussing the investigation by the OFT with my colleagues," he said. "We want to ensure that tickets end up being used by individuals."

"Up to now there has been the temptation for people successful in the ballot to pass them on to unofficial corporate hospitality."

"I can understand that Mr Burton has to ask his customers for a higher price because he can now only buy tickets from debenture holders but we believe that the point of the public ballot is people who want to watch tennis can do so instead of getting their ticket and flogging it to the highest bidder."

"If someone tries to gain entry with a ticket bought in the public ballot by someone else they will be turned away and it could result in prosecution."

Tickets sold at the gates on the day include 600 for the centre court for the first nine days, 600 for number 1 court for every day, 820 for number 1 court standing every day, 1,000 number 2 court seats every day and 5,000 ground admission every day.

Ferreira wins, page 28

Stately home hopes for a slice of EC history

The EC roundabout has stopped at Britain. Sheila Gunn reports on the scramble for plum venues

A CORNER of the British Isles could make history in the next six months as the site where a new agreement was struck on the future of Europe. What the Dutch presidency of the European Community did for the humble town of Maastricht, Britain's reign could do for Chesham, Bath — or for Brockton Hall.

The Foreign Office will announce this week the list of venues for meetings of EC ministers and officials between July and December, culminating at the end of Britain's presidency, in the European Council summit at Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh.

More piebald surroundings have been picked for the other gatherings. But, as in other member states, Brit-

ish officials have been at pains to vary the sites to brighten up the lives of the Eurocrats who must traipse around the outposts of the continent to discuss the fate of the latest Brussels edict.

The EC roundabout also gives host countries the chance to put various towns on the map, albeit briefly. Chesham will host the meeting of social affairs council, headed by Gillian Shepard, the employment secretary, who will battle with the EC commissioner Vasso Papandreu over new directives on workers' conditions. Norman

Lamont, the chancellor, will entertain finance ministers in Bath in spite of the constituency's eviction of Chris Patten, former Tory party chairman, as its MP at the general election. John Gummer and the other EC agriculture ministers will descend on Cambridge while the environment council under Michael Howard will meet in Scotland at Glencoe hotel, Tayside.

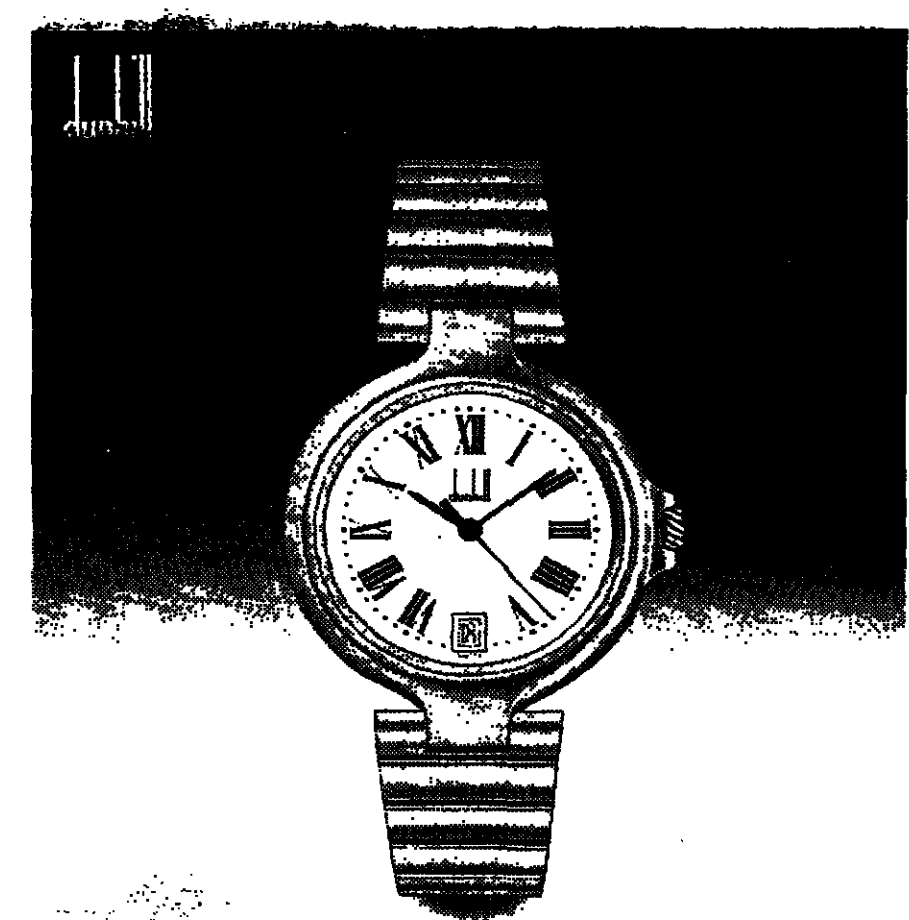
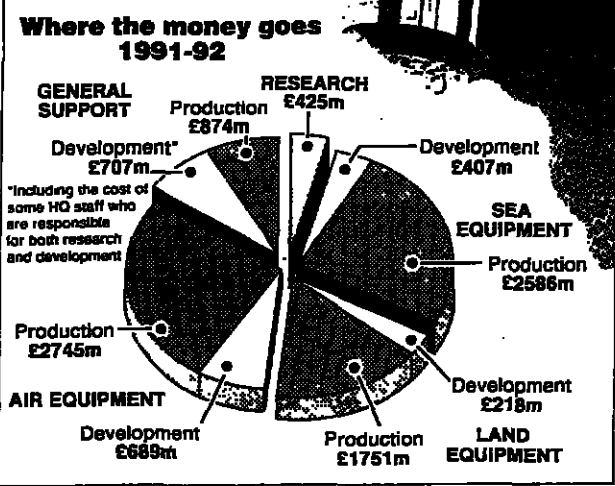
However, the prime site during the six months is Brockton Hall, near Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, 20 miles from Hyde Park corner. London. Departments scrambled to

snag up the stately home, built in 1760, which stands in a 1,400 acre estate. It has a golf course, shooting, an airstrip and Mark Gregory, a leading chef. Foreign affairs, trade and transport ministers will all hold meetings there.

Lord Brockton, who converted the estate into a American-style retreat for high-level meetings in the early eighties, has hosted earlier inter-governmental summits. "There have been a few Brockton agreements already," he said. "Unfortunately, after thrashing out the details here, they always seem to go off to London for the actual signing."

Major backs Defors, page 1
Letters, page 15

UK's joint projects	
Australia	1
Belgium	2
Canada	6
Denmark	2
France	20
Germany	18
Greece	1
Italy	12
Netherlands	7
Norway	5
Spain	8
Turkey	2
US	20



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It all started so suddenly. We could not have done more, even if we had more officers, says police chief

Riot shatters cheap drink experiment

THE Swedish experiment of policing England football followers with liberal restraint ended at midnight on Saturday when two supporters jumped from the roof of a beer tent, a whistle blew and a planned riot began.

For almost two hours, the Malmö police, outnumbered at the start by the estimated 200 hooligans, struggled to regain control of the centre of this Baltic port. They had to use dogs and mounted police in repeated charges and deploy 300 officers to achieve calm.

A total of 21 windows in shops and a hotel was broken, cars and a motorbike were vandalised, and 15 people were treated in hospital with three being detained. However, only 8 Englishmen were yesterday charged with offences ranging from violent riot to assault and criminal damage as a result of the disturbances, three of whom were identified using video evidence taken by the police. Two more Britons have been reported. The small number of arrests was largely because police were too busy trying to restore order to hold sports.

This is the third successive European Championship in which England have taken part which has been marred by violence. In 1980 the opening match was interrupted for 30 minutes when the Turin police fired tear

The English disease was not cured, but merely lying dormant.
John Goodbody reports

gas into the fighting supporters. Four years ago in Germany, almost 800 people, including 394 Englishmen, were held after trouble in Stuttgart, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt.

This latest outbreak was not as serious as the previous incident but still emphasised that since the 1990 World Cup English hooliganism has been dormant rather than cured. Gustaf Andersson, the deputy police chief, while describing the incident as a "riot" added: "This was not the worst that we have seen in Malmö. Several years ago we had worse trouble with youngsters coming into the city centre on Friday."

British undercover officers, mingling with the 3,500 supporters, learnt on Saturday that plans had been made by a hard core of hooligans to start trouble. "We knew where but we did not know when," said Malcolm George, assistant chief of police, constable of Manchester, who is helping the Malmö operation.

Just before midnight in Stortorget Square, one English and one Norwegian

speaking supporter, understood to be a member of a neo-Nazi group known as the Aryan Brotherhood, climbed onto the roof of the cheap beer tent. The pair began chanting football slogans.

Mr Andersson said that when the people heard that supporters were to try to join them, with the possibility of danger to the people packed inside, a squad of 50 officers, with dogs, moved in. The pair jumped to the ground, a whistle was blown and a group of about 70 England followers started hurling beer cans and then bottles at the police. Mr Andersson said.

The troublemakers began a series of charges near the statue of Gustaf Adolf X, the medieval king and warrior who outflanked the Danes by leading his men across the Baltic ice. The numbers of troublemakers increased as more Englishmen joined in the vandalism.

Bicycles were hurled through shop windows in the surrounding streets. Some £8,000 of goods were stolen from a jeweller and a clothes shop was ransacked. The Savoy Hotel, facing the station, had its windows broken and a newly married couple had to flee to another hotel in their wedding attire. One Swede was stabbed and photographers and television crews were attacked. Paul Davies from ITN being beat-



Uninvited guests: a bride and groom run to safety after being caught in the riot by England football supporters in Malmö

up and the ITN camera destroyed.

Mr Andersson said that the trouble was under control within 15 minutes but many observers felt it took nearly an hour. "It all started so suddenly. We could not have done more, even if we had had more officers."

However the skirmishes continued in other parts of

the city centre with fighting between Englishmen and about 60 Lebanese who had armed themselves with knives. As people began dispersing the chant of the English supporters could be heard "Stockholm, Stockholm, here we come." England play Sweden there on Wednesday in the final qualifying game. The English

police, who have been working closely with their Swedish counterparts on preparations for the European championship since the 1990 World Cup, had always expressed disquiet about having cheap beer tents in Malmö. There is a clear link between excessive drinking and hooliganism and for the 1990 World Cup

Colin Moynihan, then sports minister persuaded the authorities in Cagliari to impose a 24-hour alcohol ban before and after matches. The Malmö officials adopted a different policy arguing that supporters would drink themselves into a "state of docility". In these beer tents plastic glasses holding 0.4 litres have been

selling for £3 for a strong beer, £2.50 for medium strength beer and £1 for the weak brew, which is the only one permitted on match days. These figures are about two-thirds the price of the average drink in cafes in central Malmö.

Malmö, page 1
French farce, page 32

Wreck to be raised by police

POLICE are to raise the wreck of the fishing vessel Pescado which sank in mysterious circumstances off the Cornish coast in February last year with the loss of six lives. It is the first time police have sought to recover a wreck in pursuit of a criminal investigation into suspected irregularities in the ship's papers.

John Evans, chief constable of Devon and Cornwall, said it was necessary to raise the 70 ft sculler so all the available evidence can be gathered.

The vessel's owner thinks she may have been pulled to the bottom by a submarine. Mr Alan Ayres hired divers to take video pictures of the wreck, showing substantial damage. The Navy said it had no boats in area at the time. The whole crew went down with the vessel but only two bodies have been recovered.

The Department of Transport concluded that the sinking was accidental, probably caused by the Pescado snagging her keel on the seabed. An inquiry into the deaths of the six crew members has been opened and adjourned.

The wreck is lying on the seabed at a depth of 250ft, about 13 miles off Dodman Point, between Falmouth and St Austell. Mr Evans estimates the cost of raising the Pescado at up to £250,000 and hopes to recover that from the Home Office.

Rita Capon, mother of Jo Ann Thomas, who died in the sinking, said her campaign for the wreck to be raised had been vindicated.

Save drought-hit rivers, conservationists urge

By TIM JONES

CONSERVATIONISTS are pressing the government to withdraw water companies' rights to compensation if prevented from abstracting water from drought-hit rivers.

Conservationists fear that Lord Crickhowell, chairman of the National Rivers Authority, will stop short of calling for such a move when he today outlines measures needed to conserve supplies in some parched areas. Thousands of square miles in the south and east of the country in the grip of the worst drought since 1745.

As rivers run dry and wetlands become parched, the detriment of wildlife, the Council for the Protection of Rural England called for the NRA to "demonstrate it is prepared to stand up to the [water] companies".

Fiona Reynolds, director of the CPRE, said: "It is time for the NRA to show its teeth and state clearly that it will withdraw abstraction licences if a river is obviously suffering. The fear of having to pay compensation should not be a factor and we believe their right to compensation should be withdrawn or amended when water resources are threatened because of their actions."

Some licences for river abstraction date back to the 1963 Water Resources Act. Compensation could amount to millions of pounds.

More than six million people in the south and east of the country have been subject to hosepipe bans for months and in some areas abstraction exceeds the rate

at which it is being replenished by annual rainfall.

A spokesman for the NRA said: "Suggestions that we will be asking for abstraction licences to be withdrawn are highly speculative, although the problems of low-flow rivers will be addressed."

● A fly fishing club has received damages from Severn Trent for pollution on a trout river in the first case brought by private individuals against a water company since the water industry's privatisation (Craig Seton writes).

The company agreed to pay undisclosed damages and costs to Leek and District Fly Fishing Association, in Staffordshire, in settlement of an action that the association had been due to bring in the High Court today.

The association sued over effluent discharges from a sewage treatment works that its members claimed had led to a serious decline in trout fishing on the Churnet. The legal action was funded by the Anglers Co-operative Association (ACA), which has 16,000 members.

Allen Edwards, the ACA's director, said that the river

had been badly polluted for at least ten years by sewage and industrial dyes that coloured the water. The payment by Severn Trent meant that the local fly fishing club would be able to monitor water quality and its members would not hesitate to go back to court if the river's recovery were threatened.

The settlement had been reached because the company was building a £10 million sewage treatment works at Leek due to be completed this summer.

Mr Edwards said that the club had agreed not to pursue a claim for an injunction against the company, but still had the right to bring fresh proceedings if there was evidence of pollution in the future. Fishing clubs were becoming more determined to protect their waters and his association was involved in a further 45 actions seeking compensation from water companies, farmers and others for pollution, he said.

Severn Trent said that it had reached the settlement because the new sewage treatment works would resolve the fishing club's problems.



Following the faith: a young Sikh at a rally in London yesterday marking the eighth anniversary of the attack by Indian troops on the Golden Temple, in Punjab, the holiest of Sikh shrines

Dismissed woman wins job fight

BANKING chiefs sexually discriminated against a woman who took time off for a hysterectomy, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

Bridget Reynolds, 47, who was personal assistant to a Japanese bank's general manager, had been recommended to have the operation by the company doctor. But while recovering at home in Barking, Essex, a senior official from her firm arrived with chocolates and a letter of dismissal.

She was told that executives of the City-based Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corporation did not think she would be fit to return to work. But Mrs Reynolds alleged that there had been sexual discrimination and the tribunal panel in Chelsea, west London, agreed. A fresh hearing will decide on what compensation she should receive.

Mrs Reynolds was delighted yesterday at the tribunal's decision. She said: "It is clear the tribunal weren't satisfied with evidence the company gave about the reasons I was being dismissed."

"The bank just decided a woman without a womb couldn't work and totally discounted what my consultant

said. They decided I wouldn't be fit in six weeks and there would be complications afterwards — which was all very silly. I was stunned by the bank's attitude."

Mrs Reynolds, who is now out of work and looking for another job, said she had no idea how much compensation she might receive.

In their long report, the tribunal members said that the panel had found hysterectomy was "as much a peculiarly female condition as is pregnancy and is to be equated with it". They said that they preferred to follow past decisions of the European Court of Justice in relation to the case and that those European decisions were binding.

He added: "We find that the applicant had been discriminated against on the grounds of her sex."

During the earlier hearing in April, the tribunal was told that Mrs Reynolds' bosses were "ignorant" about the female anatomy. They mistakenly believed she had had a tumour removed, the tribunal was told.

Mrs Reynolds was unable to claim unfair dismissal at the start of the hearing as she only had 18 months' service.

Business schools may break away

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BUSINESS schools may begin to break away from their parent universities unless they are given more autonomy, some heads of schools believe after seeing the impact of a continuing dispute in Manchester.

Lay members of Manchester Business School's council resigned with Professor Tom Cannon, the school's director, after failing to secure greater independence within Manchester University.

Heads of other schools say that similar strains are present in many of the schools that concentrate on the lucrative MBA market. Some business schools are making large profits without enjoying high esteem within their universities or being allowed to use the money they earn. Independence is not a realistic option for those concentrating on undergraduate teaching, which is integrated with

other university courses, but those with a post-graduate bias could contemplate a break.

Professor Cannon said: "Universities are going to have to be much looser with their business schools, as in the United States, if they want to keep them. Some derive half their revenue from executive courses, but cannot use the money to pay rates comparable with the top European and American schools."

Professor Robin Wensley, of Warwick University, the acting chairman of the Conference of University Management Schools, said: "I would be surprised if there were many breakaways. It is the classic problem of any organisation with profit centres: some will have different economic potential from others."

Education Times, L&T section, page 9

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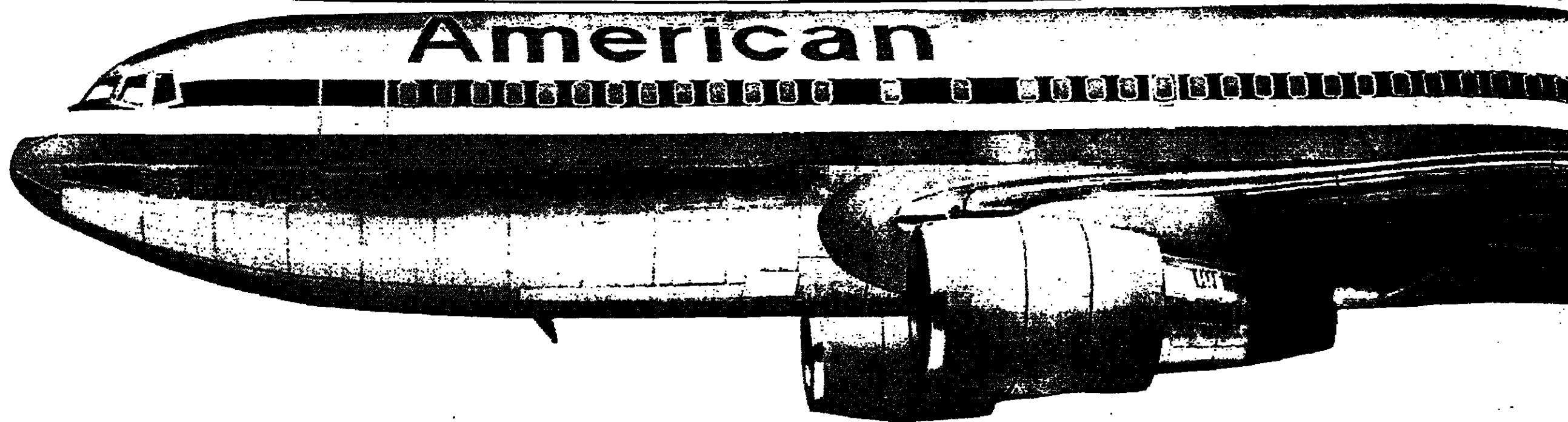
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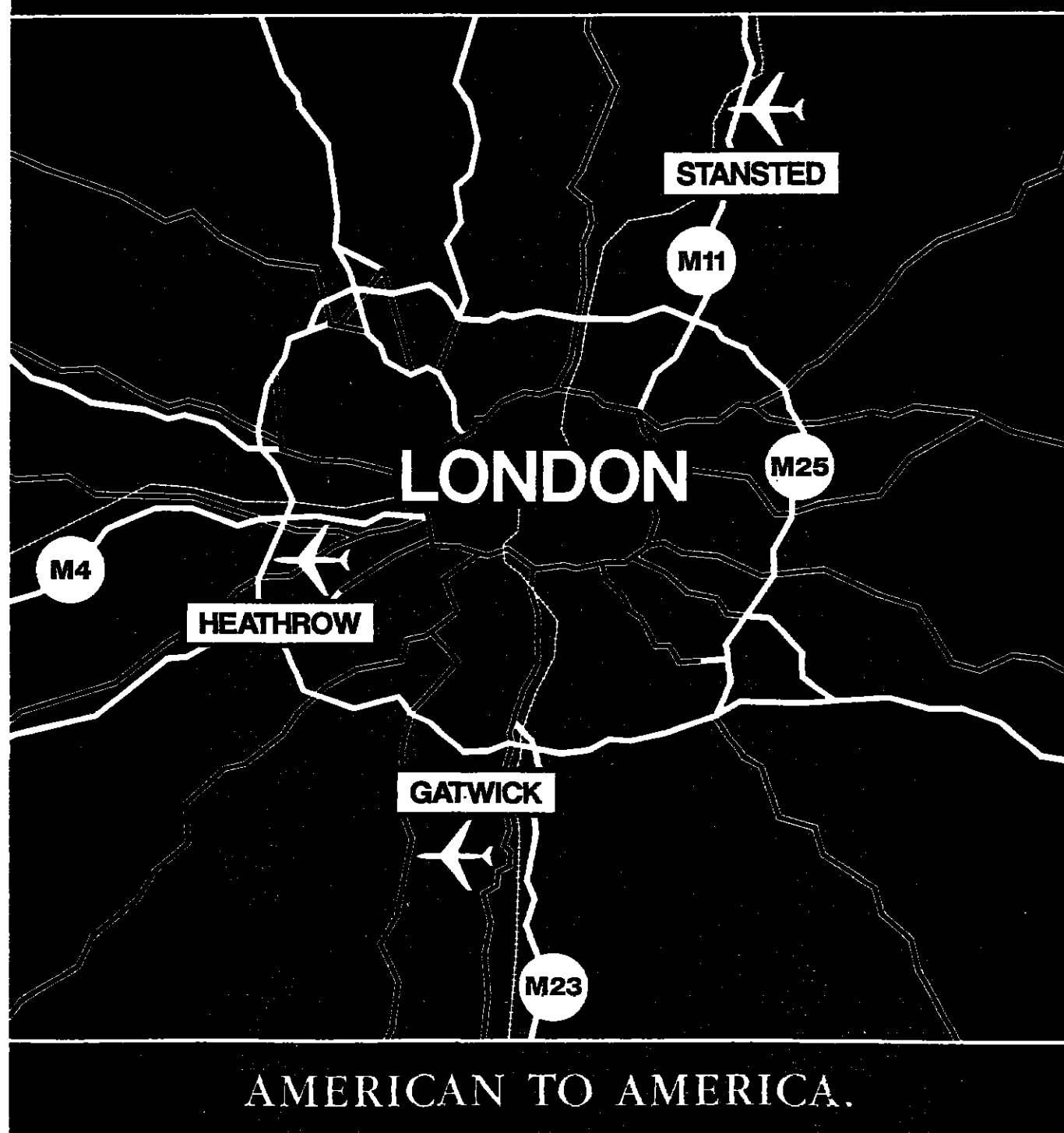
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Difficulties fail to mar optimism as momentum gathers for Northern Ireland discussions

Multi-party talks start new phase for Ulster

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE talks on the future of Northern Ireland enter a new and significant phase this week with the first meeting since partition between representatives of all shades of unionist opinion and the Irish government.

There is an unmistakable air of expectation, even excitement, among many of those involved and, for the first time, the 2½-year-long initiative seems to be taking on a sense of real momentum. Sources in both the nationalist and unionist camps are now privately willing to accept that the process stands a reasonable chance of delivering a new agreement on the structure of government for Northern Ireland, something which for much of the time has looked a remote possibility.

The key development was the agreement reached between the four Northern Ireland parties at Stormont late on Friday night to hold a preliminary meeting in the second stage of the process when, for the first time, both the British and Irish governments become involved as direct participants.

An official statement released by the Northern Ireland Office was careful to state at the outset that the meeting, chaired by Sir

Ninian Stephen, former Governor General of Australia, does not amount to a formal transition to stage two. Instead it was being seen as a logical, intermediate, next step in the process which will discuss only an agenda for the second phase.

The wording reflects divergent views on the matter held by the SDLP and unionists. The SDLP wants to move to stage two as soon as possible to strengthen its hand with Dublin participation, the unionists, on the other hand, want to reach agreement in stage one on internal UK-based arrangements for government in Northern

Ireland, before the move is made.

Yesterday, however, well placed sources within the Ulster Unionist Party readily accepted that, whatever the detail or the presentational aspects, a significant development was about to take place. A statement by Ian Paisley on Saturday reiterating that his party was not prepared to move into the second phase before agreement was reached in the first was being played down. In fact Dr Paisley's warning probably suits the UUP quite well, leaving him to play his customary tough role while his more moderate colleagues can pursue a more conciliatory line.

As the process proceeds with the first two stages effectively beginning to run in parallel, together with the first meetings in stage three (between the two governments), the strain in Dr Paisley's party between the hardliners led by the Rev. William McCrea and the more moderate element led by Peter Robinson, will come increasingly into play. At this stage, though, it does not look as though Mr McCrea is willing to be the one to walk out on the process even if he feels it is becoming weighted too much in Dublin's favour.

Yesterday DUP sources

spoke of their fear that Britain could be on the threshold of betraying them and threatened not to send representatives to this week's meeting. They also said, however, that walking out at this stage would leave Northern Ireland facing perhaps another decade of political stalemate, which was in no-one's interests.

Sources in the UUP meanwhile, confirmed that they expect the meeting with Sir Ninian not to be just a one-off but possibly the beginning of a small series. The idea, floated in some reports at the weekend, that unionist and Irish government representa-

tives will not meet face to face, was dismissed as ridiculous.

The sense of excitement among some unionists is matched by reaction in Dublin where government sources expressed great pleasure at Friday's outcome but stressed that they did not wish to overplay the significance of the meeting, presumably to avoid frightening the unionists away. The meeting may take place on Wednesday and will be held in London.

While the weekend's developments clearly inject a note of much needed optimism into the process, there are still major problems ahead and stage one disagreements remain unresolved with the SDLP still sticking to its idea of a six-member commission to govern Northern Ireland, while the unionists and Alliance prefer an assembly and a system of committees.

Sources close to the talks, however, are saying that there has been movement in the last week. For example the SDLP is said to have put forward a modified version of its commission proposal, this time styling it in more of a presidential role, leaving the day-to-day running of the province to a committee or cabinet drawn from an assembly.

Leading article, page 15

How structure for the talks evolved

THE government's initiative on Northern Ireland has to take account of three separate relationships, namely between the communities inside the province, between those communities and the Irish government, and between the British and Irish governments.

Accordingly, the process, considered to be aimed at achieving a new devolved government in Belfast, takes place in three stages beginning with inter-party talks between the four so-called

constitutional parties in Northern Ireland, chaired by the British government.

Those negotiations were originally intended to last about five weeks — although they have already lasted seven — before the second stage, which involves the Irish government for the first time. In this phase the British government hands over its chairmanship to Sir Ninian Stephen, a former governor general of Australia, and becomes a participant alongside the party leaders and

representatives of the Irish government.

These negotiations — the first involving direct contact between all shades of unionist opinion and Dublin since partition — will begin in London before continuing at Stormont. There will also be at least one session held in Dublin. At some point, provided that the process is continuing productively, a third stage will open up involving talks between the two governments alone.

The initiative is designed

to be completed within a pre-arranged three-month gap between meetings of the Anglo-Irish Conference. It can therefore be expected to last until the end of next month, although it may well overrun.

The progression through the three stages is not an irreversible process and government sources have emphasised that, if required, discussions within the format of stage one may be re-convened, if necessary even after the talks in stage two have begun.

UN to use experience of the troubles

By OUR IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

NORTHERN Ireland's experience of 23 years of communal conflict is to be put to good use with the establishment of a United Nations centre devoted to the study of ethnic and communal conflicts around the world.

The scheme, which is at an advanced stage of preparation, is expected to receive final approval early next year after consideration by the United Nations University in Tokyo, and should be launched in 1993.

The institute will have a budget of about £5 million and will be known as the Centre on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity. It will be based in Londonderry and will provide training for civil servants, police officers, judges and voluntary workers from throughout the world as well as acting as the world's main centre for research into causes of ethnic conflict.

A team of academics from the United States, Russia, Mexico, India and Northern Ireland has just completed a feasibility study into the project, which has received a positive response in Tokyo.

Professor John Dorley, director of the Ethnic Studies Network at the University of Ulster and a member of the planning team, said yesterday that arrangements for the centre will begin in autumn.

He considers Northern Ireland the ideal location for the study of communal conflicts. "Many of the people coming here will be researching problems in their own countries and we will hope to learn from them," he said. "The advantage for them of being based in Northern Ireland is that they will have another case study on their doorstep."

Another member of the team, Dr Peter Shikirev, of the Russian Academy of Sciences, said one of the centre's purposes would be to identify similarities between conflicts. The plan for the centre, the fifth external institute sponsored by the UN university, reflects a rise in conflicts with communal or ethnic aspects.



Drinking to the future: Bryan Gould yesterday after urging the party to stop wrangling over its defeat

Elite advisers blamed for Labour loss

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR's senior figures look certain to exchange bitter recriminations on Thursday about why the party lost the general election.

At the special inquest, the party's advisers and members of the National Executive Committee will discuss various explanations about the electoral defeat, blaming different party figures.

A report, to be presented by Larry Whitty, the party's general secretary, is expected to single out for blame a small group of special advisers from the Shadow Communications Agency. Those named will be Patricia Hewitt, a close confidante and former adviser to Neil Kinnock; Phil-

ip Gould, who was responsible for party political broadcasts including the health service broadcast which provoked the "war of Jennifer's ear"; and Lord Hollick.

John Prescott, a candidate for Labour's deputy leadership, stoked up the dispute yesterday by stating that the party's national executive needed to regain control of the party from professional advisers and reassess its authority.

He said on TV-am's *Front on Sunday* programme: "The party must take control of its own affairs and not let it go to others who feel they can run it. They are wrong."

In an implicit reference to

the Shadow Cabinet Agency advisers he added that those people who ran the election campaign, did not want to be blamed for the defeat. Mr Prescott added: "The national executive is the source of authority. For far too long it has been controlled by a few people who abuse some of the authority given to them, basically, through the leader's office."

Bryan Gould, a challenger for the leader and deputy leadership, complained yesterday that much of the superficial election analysis had been unhelpful. "There are no scapegoats and all of us in a leadership position must bear some of that responsibility," he told the annual conference of the Greater London region of the Labour party.

Mr Gould suggested the party would be better off devising a modern agenda instead of wrangling over the election defeat.

Delivering his own assessment to the national executive on Thursday, Tony Benn, the veteran left-winger, will accuse the party leadership of distancing itself from the grassroots, neutralising policy and attacking the left.

He said yesterday that if the NEC was to make a sensible examination of the reasons for the defeat, the party must re-examine its basic strategy.

Students' union to lose closed shop

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, yesterday ended three years of uncertainty over the future of the National Union of Students by making known his intention to impose voluntary membership on an organisation he regards as the last bastion of the closed shop.

The decision, to be confirmed by Nigel Forman, the higher education minister, in a House of Commons adjournment debate this evening, meets only one of the demands of right-wing Conservative critics of student unions. They want local unions, as well as the national body, to lose their automatic membership.

A report by the Adam Smith Institute, published today, proposes that voluntary union membership should be at the heart of a "student's charter", which would also guarantee a high standard of service and access to a range of information. A charter was considered by ministers before the general election, but was not pursued.

Student unions have been a frequent target of Conservative MPs and pressure groups. The latest government review was launched in 1989, but has never reported.

Kenneth Clarke, as education secretary, put in a bid for a bill on voluntary membership before the general election. Although the subject did not feature in last month's Queen's Speech, it may be given legislative time before the end of the year. The education department said yesterday that a bill was a serious possibility.

Under the present arrangements, students are automatic members of their local unions, most of which affiliate to the NUS. The union claims 1.5 million members at 850 universities, polytechnics and colleges. It has 80 staff and a £2 million budget. Ministers want students to pay their own fees to join the NUS. At present, local authorities pay the subscriptions of most students.

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Councils seek to avoid almost £40m in spending cuts

LEADERS of eight councils will meet ministers this week in a final attempt to head off charge-capping orders that would require them to cut almost £40 million from their spending plans this year.

If Michael Howard, the environment secretary, cannot be persuaded to change his mind, schools, nurseries, libraries and facilities for the elderly will be affected. The criteria by which councils would be capped was announced last year, prompting the majority to effectively cap themselves by bringing budgets into line with the capping limits.

Twelve set budgets above the capping limit this year. Two, Mid-Gloucestershire and neighbouring Tisbury, on Tees, in Cleveland, accepted the caps. Two others, Rushmore in Leicestershire and Rushmore in Hampshire, escaped capping after satisfying ministers that technical problems had

pushed them over the limit. This year, councils have been allowed to spend up to 12.5 per cent above their spending targets, or 6.5 per cent more than last year, whichever is less. Those which overspent their target by more than 12.5 per cent last year are required to cut spending this year by up to ten per cent.

Labour-controlled Greenwich council has been capped every year since capping was introduced in 1985 and this year faces cuts of £8.77m to comply with its capping limit. The council insists that its budget of £228.8m includes no new spending. It says it has simply uprated last year's budget in line with inflation and added the cost of new duties imposed by the government. Len Duvall, the council leader, said the council, which was praised in the eighties by the Audit Commission, was not profitable. It broke spending targets because the formula used to set

Schools, nurseries, libraries and the elderly will be affected by charge-capping, writes Douglas Broom

them was flawed.

The government sets a standard spending assessment for each council, which is regarded by ministers as the target level for council spending. The figure is arrived at using a complex formula.

Such are the idiosyncrasies of the system that while Greenwich has the highest infant mortality rate in inner London and the greatest number of children on its "at risk" register, its allowance for spending on social services for children is £39 per child, while the next lowest London borough, Lewisham, is allowed £155.

Mr Duvall said that in other

areas the formula failed to measure social need in the borough. If it was forced to make the cuts required by capping education, social services and help for the homeless would all be hit. Greenwich has proposed a compromise figure of £227.2m, which would still involve cuts of £1.88m. It will be put to the local government minister John Redwood tomorrow.

Hillingdon is facing an £870,000 cut in its budget, but maintains the government has ignored a major drain on its funds. Hillingdon includes Heathrow airport and a steady stream of unaccompanied child refugees from the Horn of Africa has been arriving there for the last three years, accounting for the overspending.

In Liberal Democrat Cheltenham a boundary change on April 1 last year increased its population by 20 per cent. The environment department said it was too late to

increase Cheltenham's spending assessment for the year but sanctioned a transfer of £1.08m from neighbouring Tewkesbury, from whence the city's new residents had come. This year the department refused to add the same figure to Cheltenham's spending assessment.

The environment department declines to comment on any of the appeals. "It is a matter for ministers to decide," said a spokeswoman.

Capping, which was first introduced as a means of keeping down rates bills, has assumed added importance this year because of the need to restrain spending in the run-up to the new council tax next year. Mr Howard wants to avoid a repetition of the sharp rise in council spending that preceded the community charge in 1990 and led to it being discredited almost before it was launched.

Big brewers, forced by government to cut back on their pubs, are charging 'unreasonable' rents

Publicans take court action to save businesses

For some publicans, signing the brewers' new leases would be taking the short road to bankruptcy, Tony Dawe writes

PUBLICANS facing eviction by the big brewers are going to court in final attempts to save their public houses.

They are using contract law and clauses in the 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act to justify their right to keep their businesses, which in many cases are also their homes. The legal action marks the latest chapter in the controversy over the government's reorganisation of the brewing industry, which is intended to create more freedom of choice.

Publicans say that the major brewers, who have been ordered to cut the number of pubs they control, are demanding unreasonable rents for the ones they are keeping. The brewers, Allied, Bass, Grand Metropolitan and Whitbread, insist that most of their tenants have agreed new terms and that the criticisms are unjustified.

But in some of the cases that are going to court the brewers are being accused of "brutish" behaviour. In one, GrandMet is refusing to renew a tenant's lease, partly because he failed to sell enough cider although his beer and lager sales were above requirement. The shortfall was just eight gallons for two years and one gallon for the third.

The case involves Alf Sanderson, a former soldier and taxi driver, who runs the Flying Horse in the City of London, and says he has no alternative but to sue. "I am

59 this year and am not going to walk into another job at my age," he said. He expected to renew his lease with Courage last September because in 1986 he had signed a deal, called the five plus five, which gave him the option to renew after five years providing he had met all his obligations. But early last year Courage sold all its pubs to GrandMet in return for taking over that company's brewing interests. A new property firm, Intreprenor Estates, was created to run all the pubs and it decided not to renew five-plus-five leases but to offer selected tenants new 20-year deals.

"I have no interest in a 20-year lease," Mr Sanderson said. "I had geared everything, like paying off the mortgage and increasing pension contributions, to completing another five years before retiring."

John Capes, litigation manager for Herbert Reeves & Co, Mr Sanderson's solicitor, said the terms of the lease, which would increase Mr Sanderson's rent from £20,316 a year to £52,500 and make him responsible for repairs to the early Victorian building, "is one of the most onerous leases I have ever seen. Signing it would be taking the short road to bankruptcy."

Mr Sanderson's writ alleges breach of contract because of the brewery's failure to offer him the option, clearly stated in the lease, of



No choice but to sue: Alf Sanderson, publican at the Flying Horse, says at age 59, he has no interest in an expensive new 20-year lease

renewing it. The brewers' defence, laid before the High Court last month, is that it would be unlawful under the new regulations to renew the lease.

It also claims that Mr Sanderson breached the terms of his first five-year lease by failing to sell enough cider. "The shortfall was tiny," and was caused by the brewer's own problems with deliveries.

The case of James Little of The Alexandra, Norwich, Norfolk, who was refused the chance of renewing his five plus five Courage lease is being taken to court by the

National Licensed Victuallers Association, even though it is winding up because of fewer pub tenants. "We have set aside funds to fight the case because its result will be of significance to many others on this sort of lease," Kathy Davis, the association's legal officer, said. "We have obtained counsel's opinion that, under the terms of the lease, the brewers cannot stop Mr Little from renewing it."

Stewart Segal, a director of GrandMet Estates, the parent company of Intreprenor, said that the five-plus-five leases must be replaced because of the new legisla-

tion. "It requires a reduction in the number of pubs tied to selling the major brewers' products," he said.

"We have given additional undertakings to the Office of Fair Trading to free all our pubs from the tie by 1998. When that happens, tenants on our leases will have to be responsible by law for repairing and insuring their premises."

"We do not want to be involved with different forms of leasing over the next few years so decided to offer only the 20-year leases, which we believe will prove beneficial."

GrandMet counters criticism of its higher rents by pointing out that tenants will have greater security and will be able to "maximise their profits" by keeping the takings from gaming machines and other incidental activities.

The company is also the target of legal proceedings being brought under the Landlord and Tenant Act by a group of publicans including Will Swallow, of the Malt Shovel, Eynsford, Kent. They argue that under the act Intreprenor cannot impose new leases because a substantial part of their income derives from other than the company's products. In Mr Swallow's case, it is the

proceeds from a successful seafood restaurant he has developed at his pub. "I have been selling Courage beers for nearly 30 years and have made a big investment in this pub over the last 20," he said. "But because I couldn't see any benefit in signing a new 20-year lease, I have been given notice to quit."

"The company has put unbearable pressure on me. In the past, I have been a trouble-shooter for the brewery in north London pubs where there were fights most nights, but that was nothing compared with the way I have been trodden over in the last few months."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Scots town to restore landmark

A Scottish town is appealing for help to replace its lost church steeple. The Duke of Argyll is supporting the launch of a £500,000 appeal to build a new church steeple in Inveraray, Strathclyde, after all attempts to find the old one ended in failure (Ruth Gledhill writes).

The church was built between 1795 and 1802 and is, like the town, the work of the architect Robert Mylne. It is laid out in the form of a cross and has been a local landmark in Inveraray, which was the first planned town in Britain.

During the second world war residents dismantled the steeple because of fears that heavy military traffic could cause it to collapse. Christion Lang, director of the appeal, said: "No one knows what happened to the stones. Some people will say that there are more relevant needs in this unequal world of ours than the rebuilding of a church steeple, but we must have a secure base to face the future."

Rolls auction makes £640,855

More than 1,000 Rolls-Royce and Bentley car owners attended the marque's annual rally at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire, yesterday. The event coincided with an auction of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars by Sotheby's that made £640,855 and was 65 per cent sold.

The top lot was the comedian Eric Sykes's 1957 black Bentley 51 Continental, which made £91,300 (estimate £65,000-85,000). It went to a private buyer with a collection in the West Country who outbid a major dealer.

Antibiotic drug is withdrawn

An antibiotic drug prescribed to an estimated 20,000 British patients since its introduction a year ago has been withdrawn after reports that three people who have taken it in the United States have died.

Tefox has been prescribed for the treatment of chest, skin and urinary infections. The three deaths being investigated by the US Food and Drug Administration have not been attributed to the drug, and there have been no reports about it made to the UK Committee on Safety of Medicines.

Laura Davies 'doing well'

Laura Davies, the four-year-old liver and bowel transplant patient from Eccles, Greater Manchester, was yesterday doing quite well after her operation in America four days ago. Doctors at Pitsburgh Children's Hospital remained hopeful about her condition, which was still serious, a spokeswoman said. Sir Roy Calne, the surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, who had offered to carry out the operation for the first time in Britain, will fly to America on Wednesday to study the techniques used in Laura's surgery.

Boy drowns

A boy aged 17 drowned in a lake as his friends continued swimming. Matthew Brown and Nicholas Burchett, both also 17, thought their friend had gone to change after swimming with them in the grounds of Matthew's home at Cranbrook, Kent, but found no sign of him when they returned to the house. Police were yesterday trying to trace relatives of the boy, from nearby Staplehurst.

Pilot breaks leg

A hang-glider pilot broke his leg when he crashed at Hurlstone Point, east of Porlock Bay, north Devon yesterday. A doctor who accompanied coastguards gave him emergency treatment and later an RAF Wessex rescue helicopter from Chivenor flew him to the North Devon and District Hospital at Barnstaple. Swansea coastguards coordinated the rescue.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today: John Smith, Labour leadership front runner, addresses GMB union's annual conference in Blackpool. Manpower's quarterly survey of employment prospects and the trade figures for the first quarter are published. A new campaign is launched to encourage vaccination against Hepatitis B, which kills more people in the world every day than AIDS does in a year.

Tuesday: Michael Heseltine, trade secretary, meets leaders of motor industry to discuss problems occurring in recession as retail sales figures for May are published. Result declared of GMB union's ballot on who it should support for the Labour leadership and deputy leadership. The League Against Cruel Sports opens a private prosecution at Loughborough against two Quorn hunt members on firearms charges.

Wednesday: the approach by GPs to government plans for NHS reforms in light of the Conservative general election victory is outlined by the BMA. Glenn Goodman, the special constable shot dead in North Yorkshire on May 7, is buried at Selby Abbey. Partnership in Protection, a new home security project for the elderly, is launched at the House of Commons.

Thursday: unemployment figures for May are published. A new report is launched by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors on inner-city development. The biggest creditors of the Maxwell companies meet to discuss their next moves. Paul McCartney is 50.

Friday: John Major heads a meeting at Downing Street to review the progress made so far on the various charters. British politicians discuss the Irish Republic's referendum on the EC treaty. Eight people appear in court on charges of causing criminal damage during protests at the erection of a statue to "Bomber" Harris.

Saturday: Travellers and hippies expected to gather for the summer solstice at Stonehenge. The rock group U2 expected to attend a Greenpeace organised demonstration outside Sellafield over British Nuclear Fuel's plans to open Sellafield 2.

Sunday: The Queen visits Fraserburgh, Grampian, and is expected to meet the widows of 20 men who died in fishing tragedies.

Tiny fish pose threat to nature

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

MODERN fishing methods are producing a miniature race of fish, according to an American marine biologist. Limitations on the mesh size of nets, together with high-technology methods that enable fishing vessels to catch ever-larger numbers of fish, are exerting a powerful evolutionary pressure favouring smaller fish over larger ones.

The result, says James Bohnsack of the US National Marine Fisheries Service, is an increasingly diminutive race of fish which threatens the whole future of the world fishing industry, which has recently suffered the first decline in catches for 20 years.

In any fish population it is the smaller ones that survive, slipping through the wide-mesh nets designed to protect the young. These small survivors produce small offspring, and so on: in this way, man has created a powerful form of natural selection in which those that survive tend to be small.

Dr Bohnsack says that what is happening is the exact opposite of normal animal husbandry, in which the biggest chickens, or those that produce the most eggs, are favoured. In fishing, he says, we are setting out to kill the biggest, the ones that grow fastest, or the ones that take the bait quickest. "Today we can catch fish faster than nature can produce them. The ones that survive are the precocious ones, so we are selecting for a smaller, more stunted population."

The only way to reverse the trend, he says, is to set aside large areas of the ocean as reserves in which fish could be freed from fishing pressure and grow to their full natural size. Dr Bohnsack has proposed a vast system of coastal reserves, up to 20 per cent of US coastal waters, to provide a haven for fish.

The evidence for his thesis is circumstantial but growing, he says. The chinook salmon caught has declined in size, on average, by 50 per cent over the past 60 years, while the pink salmon has declined by 10-20 per cent over 25 years. Fish are maturing earlier, but cannot match the productivity of the older ones. A red snapper ten years old produces 9.3 million eggs, more than 200 times as many as fish that have just reached maturity.

Car service in France breaks even

Lin Jenkins found that reported savings on having a car serviced in France might have been overstated

TAKING the car to France for a service seemed a little foolhardy when, on the eve of departure, it refused to start. If it failed to start on the other side of the Channel the profit-hungry ferry companies would no doubt find a way to get it off. But what if it broke down on the way to the garage? Any notion of enjoying seafood in Boulogne paid for by savings made on the car bill was fading.

However, the appointment had been made and the ferry booked. The garage had been telephoned only two days before to book the service on the Rover 216 SX, while my usual garage requires at least a week's notice.

That garage, London Road Dealership, had quoted £260 for a 42,000 mile service. Another garage in Surrey said that, for the quoted mileage, all it needed was a lubrication service but, when told it had missed a couple of services, estimated the price at £150 plus VAT.

The Sam Sealink sailing from Dover arrived mid-morning in France and Littoral Auto, Avenue John Kennedy, Boulogne, was easy to find if not very French in flavour. The car was left with



Gallie touch: a French mechanic at work on Lin Jenkins's Rover

their mechanics and there was time to visit the town centre and enjoy a leisurely lunch and a brisk stroll around the shops before heading back to the garage for five o'clock.

Genevieve Sarrazin went through the bill in a mixture of French and English and explained that a front brake had been replaced. The most striking feature of the bill was the labour cost, FF320 (£32.55) for two hours. My garage charges £39.50 an hour so there was an immediate saving of some £45. The total bill came to FF975.92 (£99.28).

Checking the part numbers of the plugs, brake disc and washers with an English

Rover dealer, the prices were comparable, if a few pence cheaper in France. The charge made for oil at FF120 (£12.21) was below that usually charged by my garage. All the part numbers on the bill corresponded with genuine Rover parts.

Unfortunately the garage neglected to sort out the electrical problems that had drained the battery. Questions about the illuminated battery warning light were greeted with a Gallic shrug of resignation and there was no way the car could be left for another day.

The saving on the service was probably about £50, which went some way to offset the £70 ferry fare, but certain-

ly did not cover the cost of my £20 lunch. But with the savings made at the hyper-market and the pleasant day out in the picturesque French port, it certainly made a pleasant change from having the car serviced at my local garage.

Littoral Auto service a number of British owned cars, but mostly those of holiday home owners who have paid for the trip anyway and taken advantage of the savings, and who can no doubt return easily if there is a problem with the car.

Car trippers, page 1
Leading article, page 15
Passport to France, L&T section, page 5

Queues greet the new MG

BY OUR MOTORING
CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 1,000 people are said to be queuing to buy the new MG sports car which will be seen for the first time at the British International Motor Show in October.

Rover, now the owner of the octagonal MG badge, has told dealers that they can take orders today for the £26,500 MG RV8. Interest is said to be so great that the first year's production could be booked up.

The MG is returning after a sustained campaign by enthusiasts. The MGB was thought to be still Britain's most popular sports car, yet it has not been in production since 1980. More than 500,000 MGBs were built and as many as 300,000 are thought to be running in America. In Britain, the MG Owners' Club has 50,000 members, believed to be one of the biggest memberships of any car club in the world.

In spite of the interest, however, Rover had refused to build another MG sports car, falling back on production of high performance versions of its saloons during the Eighties. However, the success of Japanese sports cars in Britain made Rover think again and accept that a new car could be viable.

Final chapter for book aid charity

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA

BOOK Aid, the charity which collected 1.5 million English language books for the former Soviet Union in January, is to wind up, having dispatched most of the books to libraries throughout the country.

Bookshops were inundated with literary gifts during the appeal for four months ago, which was supported by The Times. Roger Gravel, who founded the charity last September, said that the response had been astonishing.

"It's been very reassuring when there's been nothing but bad news coming out of Russia. People in St Petersburg have said that this is just

the sort of thing they want and we should listen to that," he said. "The gift of knowledge and experience is worth more than material things when there is no context for those things to exist in."

Distribution centres for the books have been set up in Moscow, Riga, St Petersburg, Kiev and Minsk. Of the former republics, only Azerbaijan has refused to accept the gifts, which have been described by one academic as "God's manna from heaven".

Emi Bulman, the charity's Book Aid co-ordinator in Moscow, said the books were being read in libraries throughout the country.

BOOK AID RECIPIENTS

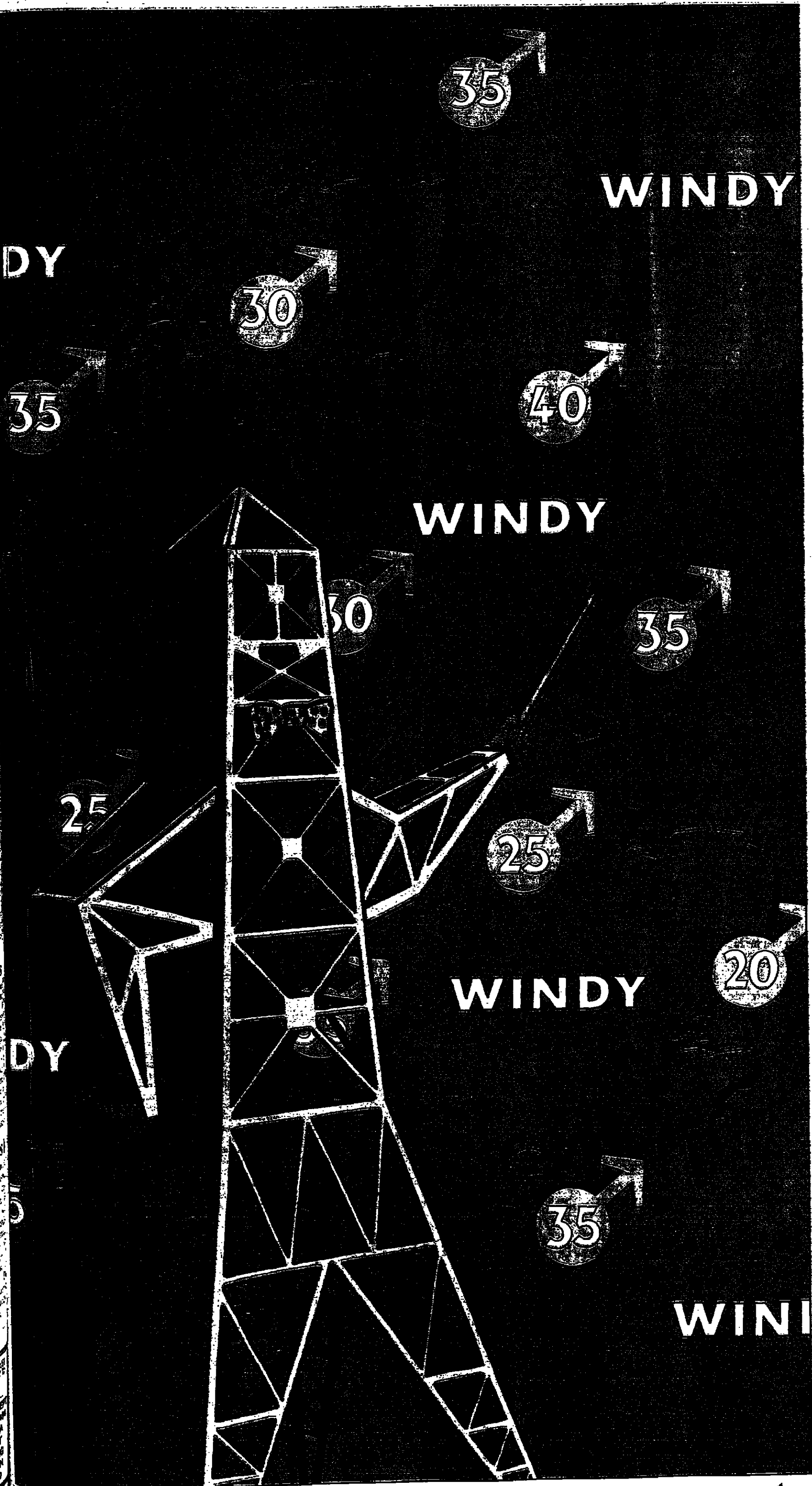
No books collected		No books collected
289	Institute of Architecture	720
7	Institute of Art Studies	28
6	Institute of Chemical Physics	
82	All-Russian Institute of Cinematographers	
227	Institute of Commerce	
358	Institute of Complex Problems	
82	Russian Economics Academy	834
9	Institute of Economics	1,405
24	Moscow Economics and Statistics Institute	347
284	Moscow Institute of Energy	789
21	Moscow Institute of Forestry	5,059
80	Moscow Institute of Hydro-irrigation	1,800
163	Moscow International Business School	
90	Institute of International Business Relations	
74	Institute of International Cooperation	4,700
173	Technical Institute of Light Industry	1,972
97	Institute of New Technologies	220
4	Institute of Organic Chemistry	2,077
150	Institute of the Peoples' Friendship	
3	Institute of Politics & Workers' Movements	
163	Institute of Radioelectronics and Electronics	20
47	Regional Pedagogical Institute	28
82	Institute of Scientific Information	94
80	Institute of Transport	28
153	Higher Economics School (Voronezh)	360
20	Institute of Agriculture (Bryansk)	15
25	Institute of Forestry (Voronezh)	16
192	Institute of Oil (Ufa)	20
	School of Commerce (Voronezh)	54
	Universities	67
	Moscow State University	8
143	Russian Open University	
5	All Union Pedagogical University	
754	Linguistic University	48
64	Voronezh University	35
		8
	Polytechnics	
	All-Russian Polytechnic	
	Voronezh Polytechnic	
	Libraries	
	Children's Libraries	
	Moscow Public Libraries	
	Libraries outside Moscow	
	Specialist libraries	
	Rudomino library for Foreign Literature	
	Russian State Library	
	Schools	
	General education schools (8-17 yrs)	
	Specialist schools	
	Kindergartens	
	Schools outside Moscow	
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	Business School of Light Industry	
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	Central House of Construction	
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	Ecological Fund of the USSR (N Caucasus Dept)	
	Firm "Marika"	
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Scots to restore
landmark

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makes £640k

Antibiotic
is withdrawn

Laura Davis
doing well

Boy drowns

Pilot breaks

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Courts take first steps to becoming user friendly

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A NEW policy of customer care in the courts, including name badges for court officials, nappy-changing facilities, jurors' training videos and complaints procedures, will be outlined by the Lord Chancellor's officials at the prime minister's seminar on the citizen's charter this week.

The policy is based on results from the first Mori survey of court users' needs, which was carried out at Bow County Court, east London. At the same time, proposals will be made to improve the way courts manage their business and to deal with the principal problems of cost and delay.

Officials are considering doubling the maximum compensation that can be awarded by small claims courts to £2,000. Such courts can deal with disputes more quickly than higher courts.

A joint committee of officials from the Lord Chancellor's department, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Home Office is also looking at listing and at the problem of "cracked" trials, those which abort at the last minute through change of plea, wasting considerable resources and time.

The main concern highlighted by the survey of 256 lay users (non-lawyers) at Bow was the lack of privacy both when queuing at counters, where conversations could be overheard, and in waiting areas, where plaintiffs and their witnesses mingled with defendants. Court users also want better information on parking, changing facilities, what to expect in court and improved signposting within court complexes.

The findings are being fed into the draft charter for the courts, being drawn up by the Lord Chancellor's department, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Home Office.

At Bow several reforms have already been put into effect which, if successful, will be extended nationally. They include: a court reception point; single point queuing (as at post offices); clearer signposting so that people do not wait at the wrong counter; a dedicated counter team not simultaneously trying to do a desk job; optimum times for answering letters and the telephone (15 seconds for the latter) and name badges. Officials must also identify themselves on the telephone and in letters.

Seating areas have been redesigned to provide more privacy; drinks machines installed; swing doors replaced with electric doors (for disabled people and push chairs); and rewording of notices — words such as "plaintiffs" are out. Improved information is going out to people coming to court. In the criminal courts, an information video for jurors has already been piloted.

Procedures on how and to whom to complain are being clearly displayed and a questionnaire is being drawn up which will be issued to users to identify areas of dissatisfaction and to ensure that needs are still being met.

□ The lack of proper consumer representation on magistrates' courts committees is criticised today by the Bar Council. The recent white paper on magistrates' courts has provided for committees, which run the courts, to include lay members but this is not compulsory, the Bar Council says.

Jonathan Caplan, QC, chairman of the public affairs committee, said: "It should be a mandatory requirement to have some members on each committee who are local people, who are not magistrates and who can represent the consumer's viewpoint."

The Bar also wants the government to widen the scope of the proposed performance levels when allocating grants to magistrates' courts. These should not concentrate on throughput of cases and costs but on broader questions of public concern such as facilities in court.

TV writers accused of race bias

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BLACK and Asian television actors rarely get the chance to "act outside their skin", remaining confined to traditional roles accorded them by white writers and producers and expected of them by a white audience, a report on ethnic stereotyping in television has found.

The report, from the Economic and Social Research Council, said that although the frequency of black and Asian appearances was roughly equivalent to their number in the population as a whole, their roles failed to represent the full diversity of their day-to-day experiences. "Perceptions of black criminality and Asian victimisation are regularly rehearsed through the medium of television where ethnic actors are rarely seen as ordinary, normal people involved in ordinary, normal activities", the report said.

It urged broadcasters to combat overly negative characterisations of ethnic minorities in favour of more diverse, but not necessarily all positive, roles for Black and Asian performers.



A stroll through history: the riverside trail follows many towpaths where men and horses once pulled barges along the Thames

Riverside walkers hit a royal brick wall

A DREAM of creating a 200-mile trail along the Thames has run into snags involving the Prince of Wales, MI6, brick walls in London and iron gates and barbed wire in Windsor Home Park.

The latest campaign taken up by the Ramblers' Association is against a proposal by the prince's Duchy of Cornwall to build a wall at Lacks Dock on the Albert Embankment in central London, which would hinder access to a 164-yard stretch of riverside. The association is also asking the Duchy to pull down an existing brick wall that already blocks off the path.

David Beskine, the ramblers' assistant director of access, has tried to enlist the help of Sir Colin McColl, the head of MI6, whose new building adjoins the Duchy's properties. When it

The Thames path will pass mansions — and MI6's front door, Tim Jones reports

is completed, the path will pass its front door. A spokeswoman for the Duchy said that although it was in principle "100 per cent" in favour of the path, it had never been called upon to release the land for dedication as a public walkway. She said discussions would have to be held to decide who would be responsible for upkeep and liability.

In spite of the progress made in returning the river to the public, it is likely that one stretch will never be opened up. The Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield

has refused to discuss proposals to allow access to a mile and a half of path through Windsor Home Park, which is blocked by iron gates and barbed wire. Lord Mansfield has indicated they will always remain in place as they help to preserve the security of the royal family.

When the path is officially opened, the public will owe a debt of gratitude to David Sharp of the Ramblers, author of *The Thames Walk*, who has fought for more than 20 years for the path. He said: "Crossing a weir where once access was denied or walking through a field which once was closed is a wonderful feeling. It really is one of the great and beautiful walks of Britain."

In spite of the problems, it is probable that only ten miles of access, mainly in London, will be denied by 1994, when the Countryside Commission plans to officially open the Thames path as one of the great national trails. Since being designated by the then environment secretary Chris Patten in 1989, grants have enabled stiles and gates to be repaired, access fought for and gained over weirs and successful negotiations completed with landowners to create new rights of way.

For most of its length, the path seeks to follow the old



Dead end: barbed wire blocks the path in London. The Duchy wants to replace the fence with a wall

towpaths, passing through sleepy hamlets, busy towns and lonely fields were a heron on flap away in surprise that someone has intruded into its solitude. The path will take the walker close to the mansions of the seriously rich, the marinas where sleek floating gin palaces are moored, past luxury hotels, locks and little public houses and on to the dereliction of parts of the London

Docklands. Although riverside planners must now take the path into consideration, the recession has halted developments planned during the boom in the 1980s.

There are, in London, derelict sites scattered though Docklands, Wandsworth, Hammersmith and Green-which. They add up to about ten miles of river frontage to which access cannot be gained.

Doctors criticise Saunders verdict

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ERNEST Saunders, the former Guinness chief who was released early from jail after the Court of Appeal accepted medical evidence that he was suffering from Alzheimer's disease, was in fact a victim of depression, three psychiatrists have suggested.

They say in the *British Medical Journal* that the diagnosis accepted by the court was "certainly incorrect". Mr Saunders' apparently spontaneous recovery from an irreversible condition since his release after serving nine months of a five-year sentence could "damage the credibility of members of our profession who give evidence in which those involved have genuine Alzheimer's disease or other dementias", the psychiatrists say.

Dr Robert Howard, Dr Simon Lovestone and Professor Raymond Levy, all Alzheimer's disease specialists at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, say that the evidence was inadequate. It was based on brain scans showing some loss of cells from the front of the brain: Mr Saunders' in-

ability to repeat more than three numbers backwards; his confusion over the identity of the American president (whom he named as Gerald Ford); and the fact that on leaving one doctor's consulting room he turned in the wrong direction.

The three psychiatrists write that some loss of brain cells, detectable by scanning, can be found in depressed people in late and middle life and "is in no way diagnostic of Alzheimer's disease".



Saunders: freed from jail on health grounds

Dr Robert Howard, Dr Simon Lovestone and Professor Raymond Levy, all Alzheimer's disease specialists at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, say that the evidence was inadequate. It was based on brain scans showing some loss of cells from the front of the brain: Mr Saunders' in-

Boredom is blamed as young abandon church

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG people stop going to church because they find it boring and lonely, according to research to be published later this year. The survey showed that nearly two thirds of those who deserted their church did so before they reached their mid-twenties.

Others who survived the boredom and loneliness left because they found the church irrelevant, had doubts about Christianity or disagreed with their priest or minister. In contrast, those who left when they were older did so not because of doubts but because, having made a commitment to the church, they felt too much was expected of them.

Although the survey used a small sample, 269 people in America, Australia, England and Scotland, it is believed to be the first of its kind and is expected to trigger further work. Until now, evidence of why people leave church has been mostly anecdotal.

The survey was conducted last year by Professor Eddie

Gibbs, of Fuller Theological Seminary, California, for Marc Europe, a research organisation based in Eltham, southeast London. Preliminary results are published in the Organisation's summer bulletin, *Landmark*.

Detailed questionnaires were divided among churchgoers, lapsed church members and people who had never been regular churchgoers. More than half of all those surveyed had at one point stopped going to church for more than a year. The main influences were the failure of congregations to be welcoming, and boring services. As well as disagreements with ministers and other church members, some people simply moved away from an area and failed to find a new church. More than half had serious doubts about Christianity and more than a third said that they could no longer live by the church's moral teaching.

Many who had left the church and non-churchgoers

identified themselves as Christian and claimed their values were based on the teachings of Christianity. Nearly a third of those questioned were unsure or disagreed with the doctrine of the Trinity, but more than half said that the bible was still relevant today and believed it was uniquely inspired by God.

The survey comes as the decline in church attendance in the Church of England has bottomed out. About 25 million people have been baptised into the church but only 1.15 million attend services regularly, 24 per thousand of the population. A spokesman said that after a steady fall in attendance throughout the 1960s and 1970s, latest figures suggested that the decline had stopped.

Professor Gibbs said: "We have a lot of anecdotal evidence of why people drop out of church but I hope this survey will pinpoint areas the church in the English speaking world needs to focus on."

Shark angler rues the record that got away

By RAY CLANCY

CLIVE Pearson will be able to dine out for some time on his tale of the one that got away. In his case it was not the fish that escaped but a place in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

After an epic struggle off the North Devon coast, lasting an hour and a half, he landed the biggest porbeagle shark to have been caught. But he cannot claim the world record because, after the shark was hooked, he handed the rod to a friend thinking that the line had become trapped and tried to free it, a manoeuvre that is disallowed under International Game

Fish Association rules. The 478lb shark is 13lb heavier than the world's previous largest, caught by Jorge Potier off Padstow, Cornwall, in July 1976.

Mr Pearson said: "It was a dogged battle. At the end both the fish and I were exhausted. Obviously I am disappointed about the record because this is the biggest porbeagle shark caught in history." He was fishing for mackerel from his 24ft boat, the *Gemini*, off Hartland Point, where he lives, when he saw a big dark shadow pass by the boat. "It was so big I thought at first it was two sharks," he said yesterday.

"Then I realised that it was one

massive fish. Suddenly the fish stopped moving. I thought my line should be caught and landed. The International Game Fish Association recognises world records for a large number of species, both fresh and saltwater.

The heaviest fish are the white sharks. The heaviest ever landed weighed 2.664lb and was caught by Alfred Dean in Ceduna, South Australia, in April 1959. An even bigger white was caught by Clive Green off Albany, Western Australia, in April 1976. But the 3.388lb shark was disqualified because Mr Green had used whale meat as bait, something forbidden under regulations.

He was caught out by the stringent rules governing game fishing,

which specify types of bait, rods and lines as well as detailing how the fish should be caught and landed. The International Game Fish Association recognises world records for a large number of species, both fresh and saltwater.

The heaviest fish are the white sharks. The heaviest ever landed weighed 2.664lb and was caught by Alfred Dean in Ceduna, South Australia, in April 1959. An even bigger white was caught by Clive Green off Albany, Western Australia, in April 1976. But the 3.388lb shark was disqualified because Mr Green had used whale meat as bait, something forbidden under regulations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Aircraft to enforce speed limit

Hampshire police are to use an aircraft to track speeding motorists, particularly those travelling too fast to be chased by patrol car.

In trials beginning next month, the pilot of the light aircraft will track cars then radio details to police on the ground, who will try to stop the offending driver. Initially the aircraft will be used on the motorways and holiday trunk roads such as the A303, A33 and A34.

Superintendent David Pearcey, head of traffic for Hampshire police, said that 109 people had been killed on the county's roads last year. "We are trying to save lives," he said. "We want to catch the real speed merchants — those doing 130 miles an hour who don't think they will ever be caught."

New role for Pakistani vicar

The Rev Geoffrey Peters, Britain's first Pakistani vicar, is to work in Manningham, Bradford, home of one of the country's largest Muslim communities.

Mr Peters, 40, named after an English archbishop, is curate at St John the Evangelist Parish Church, London, and takes up his new job in September. "I see my main role as acting as a bridge between my faith and different religions," he said.

Skateboard boy crashes into car

A boy aged 10 is critically ill after crashing into a car while speeding down hill on his skateboard.

Ryan McGann, of Whitehawk, East Sussex, collided with the car as it reversed out of a driveway. He is being treated for a fractured skull and bleeding on the brain in the neurological unit at Hurswood Hospital.

Cliff plunge

Two coastguards reversed their Land Rover over a cliff and onto the rocks 80 feet below while searching for a vessel in distress at Fort Point, Eyemouth, Borders. They were airlifted to hospital, one suffering shock and the other leg and shoulder injuries.

Death crash

Two passengers died when their car hit a lamp standard at junction 22 of the M62 near Ripponden, West Yorkshire. The names of the dead, a man and a woman, were not disclosed. The male driver was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

Siege gunman

A man aged 36 surrendered to police after brandishing a shotgun and holding them at bay for eight hours at a house in Wavertree, Liverpool. Officers evacuated nearby houses and sealed off the area.

Cover-up call

The building workers' union Ucau says that its members are at particular risk of skin cancer and has warned them to keep their shirts on in the sunshine.

Beach rescue

Fourteen children and adults were cut off by the tide at North Landing, Flamborough, Humberside, and had to be led to safety by coastguards.

TV dinners

Oxfordshire county council is to advertise school dinners on regional television to try to dispel myths about the quality of food served.

Bond winners

The National Savings Premium Bonds weekly prize winners are £100,000, bond number 2475 347211, winner lives in Gloucestershire, value of holding £5,400; £50,000, 6PS 031729 (Middlesex, £660); £25,000, 18CB 235362 (Glasgow, £10,000).

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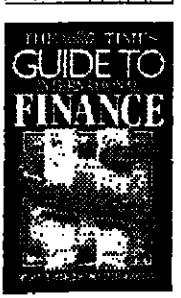
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Splits over Lockerbie put pressure on Gaddafi

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN BENGHAZI

LIBYA's annual general people's congress, which opened at the weekend, is deeply divided over the handling of the Lockerbie affair. This is posing serious new threats to the regime of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi.

There is growing Western and Arab conviction that the colonel countered an attempted coup in the weeks before United Nations sanctions were imposed on April 15. Diplomats here say it led to at least 13 executions and a shake-up in Libya's internal security arrangements, including Colonel Gaddafi's bodyguard.

Differences over policy towards the West and the Arab world are complicated by tribal divisions inside a country further divided by regional loyalties. The usual secrecy about the internal mechanisms of the regime has been tightened and rumours have become more widespread. The unease is being heightened by economic hardship visible in the main cities.

Much needed support for Libya's armed forces from former Soviet military maintenance teams has, according to diplomatic sources, faded away with most of the 2,000 advisers. Although the effects of the air embargo are most obvious, the sources claimed the two-month-old arms embargo and its maintenance clauses are now beginning to bite and affect morale in the armed forces.

At the opening of the congress in the coastal town of Sirte, a defiant refusal by Abd al-Raziq Sawwa, the congress secretary, to extradite the two Libyan agents accused of the 1988 bombing was immediately countered in the corridors by Libyan officials. One said that Mr Sawwa was

"speaking only for himself and not for the congress".

A senior Libyan ambassador told a European colleague after the opening speech: "There is no other way. We will have to hand these two men over." A final decision is expected when the congress ends this week.

Signs of dissent within the regime came into the open when Mr Sawwa's plea for Arab unity was sharply countered by the official newspaper, *Al-Jamahiriyah*, which stated on Saturday in the latest of its messages to Colonel Gaddafi: "We say to you one thousand times no to Arabism and Islam."

As delegates listened to Mr Sawwa's anti-Western diatribe from the platform, they could read in Saturday's edition of *Al-Jamahiriyah* demands that the regime immediately provide "good Western technology and not bad Arab technology". The paper, published by the revolutionary committees controlled by Major Abdel Salam Jalloud, Colonel Gaddafi's number two, declared in the latest of its remarkable series of attacks: "No to the common Arab destiny. No to regional alliances."

Uncertainty about Libya's future has been increased by renewed speculation about the health of Colonel Gaddafi, who is 50. This began when he left the conference room for an unexplained break while delivering a 40-minute speech which was not shown live on Libyan television as had been promised by the authorities.

The colonel, who suffered from sinusitis at the outset of the UN sanctions drive, appeared listless and preoccupied as he greeted members of an obscure "alternative green conference" staged in Sirte in an attempt to match the proceedings of the Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro. He made his rambling anti-Western address to the Libyan Greens on Friday — which ran counter to the advice being proffered in *Al-Jamahiriyah* — without his usual vigour. His tiredness, etched in his worry-crowded face, was remarked on by a Western reporter who recently interviewed him. "He appeared disorientated and occasionally rested his head on his elbow," the reporter said.



Moment of fear: an Inkatha supporter, brandishing a spear, charging a Soweto man. He survived, but another man was killed in clashes in the Johannesburg township on Saturday. Yesterday the police, frequently accused of siding with the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, seized two train wagonloads of weapons from party supporters on their way to a rally in Soweto. Hundreds of police shadowed people going to the rally. At a station, they forced Inkatha supporters off the train, confiscating shields, sticks, spears and at least three AK47 assault rifles, without magazines. About 20 people were arrested. (AFP)

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Immigrant voters abandon Likud

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN HAIFA

SACHA Nov steered his battered Volkswagen van through the narrow alleys of the caravan site, deftly keeping one hand on the wheel while simultaneously shouting into a loudspeaker poking out of the window.

"Come and meet DA, the only party that understands your needs and has your interests at heart," the aspiring politician from St Petersburg shouted. The Russian sloganeering seemed out of place in the midday heat north of Haifa.

There are only eight days to go before the Israeli elections and amid continuing Palestinian unrest — Israeli helicopters yesterday dropped gravel on demonstrators in the Gaza Strip — it is at these desolate mobile parks dotted across Israel that one of the fiercest campaign battles is being fought. At stake is the support of the 400,000 new Russian immigrants, whose votes could change the balance of power.

Russian immigrants have undergone a crash course in democracy. Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, had Cyrillic subtitles added to a recent party political broadcast and

the opposition Labour Party has begun a concerted door-to-door canvassing offensive.

A year ago the majority of Russian newcomers said they would vote for the ruling Likud party and other right-wing groups. Today, beset by 35 per cent unemployment and a shortage of decent and affordable housing, the Russians are preparing their revenge against the government, which they accuse of neglecting their needs.

This month polls showed Labour receiving 44 per cent of the immigrant vote, with Likud trailing at 10 per cent. The figures have certainly excited Israeli pundits who predict that, in addition to hurting Likud, the largely secular immigrant community could also undermine the strength of the ultra-orthodox parties, who held the balance of power after the last election.

Democracy has left some Russians unimpressed, however. "Back in the Soviet Union we had one party and it was bad," reflected an economist from Uzbekistan, now working as a cleaner. "Here we have 25 parties and it is still bad."

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Pall of fear covers Khmer Rouge city

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PAULIN, CAMBODIA

Pepsi-Cola. Ovaltine or even Scotch whisky are freely available in this remote, mountain-ringed town, the official "capital" of Khmer Rouge-controlled Cambodia. A Union Jack flies above a barracks housing 13 British soldiers who are training the guerrillas in landmine removal.

Despite such reassuring reminders of the outside world, Paulin offers a disconcerting glimpse of what it might be like if the feared Khmer Rouge, now refusing to disarm under the terms of United Nations-

put his hand in front of the camera, shouting: "No, it is forbidden." He waved to civilians ahead to move away, and most quickly complied. One felt safe only because the small UN mission was a few hundred yards away.

A UN liaison officer said his troops had never formally met Khmer Rouge officials. Yet an "interpreter" suddenly appears wearing colonel's insignia. A "driver" turns out to be head of the local administration. "You never know who you are talking to," the UN officer noted. Khmer Rouge units do provide some rudimentary medical care for the population, who seem in the main to be soldiers' families.

Around Paulin, the countryside is scarred by the 6,000 Thai workers who dig for rubies and sapphires which have provided the Khmer Rouge with tens of millions of dollars.

But Paulin is not the real headquarters of the Khmer Rouge, where Pol Pot, the shadow leader, now aged 69 but still in apparent good health, continues to plan strategy from behind the scenes.

"No one knows where it is," said one British soldier, nodding his head towards the mountains. "It's somewhere up there."

The British arrived three months ago under a UN plan to instruct Cambodians of all factions in mine clearance. However, the second phase of the UN plan — the regrouping and disarmament of the various guerrilla groups — suffered a setback when the Khmer Rouge boycotted the operation. Rather than real peace, the country seems on the brink of greater instability, perhaps even renewed war.



supervised accords, regained control of the country that it ravaged in the 1970s.

Paulin is a war-damaged city in northwestern Cambodia that is eerie, even frightening. Life is reminiscent of the total regimentation and thought-control of North Korea, with a dash of China's Cultural Revolution. The city's adult inhabitants move like automatons among shell-scarred buildings, avoiding contact with UN troops. Only some of the children smile and wave. Grim-faced Khmer Rouge soldiers in khaki uniforms and peaked Chinese-style caps are an intimidating presence. When I tried to take a photograph, an armed Khmer Rouge militiaman

Skateboard crashes into

A skateboarder was killed when his board crashed into a car in a parking lot in Los Angeles.

The victim, a 17-year-old boy, was riding his board when he lost control and was struck by the rear of a car.

The car driver was not injured and the car was not damaged.

The police are investigating the incident.

The boy was taken to a hospital where he died.

The police are looking for witnesses.

The car was a 1988 Ford Taurus.

The boy was riding a skateboard.

The incident occurred on a residential street.

The police are investigating the incident.

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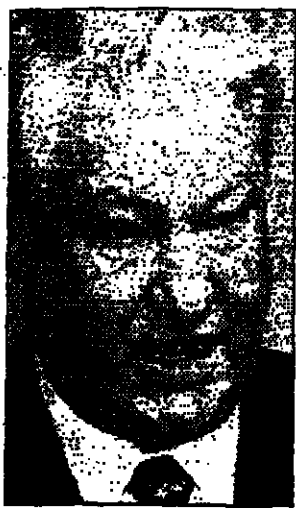
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Yeltsin aims to upstage Gorbachev, his old rival, on US visit



Yeltsin: hoping to see
exile Solzhenitsyn

BORIS Yeltsin arrives in Washington today for the first official US-Russian summit. The main themes will be nuclear disarmament, unprecedented co-operation in everything from trade and space to missile defences, and the Russian president's determination to eclipse his old rival, Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr Yeltsin was infuriated by Washington's effusive welcome for Mr Gorbachev last month. Last week he boasted that his relations with President Bush would be "at least not worse, and I believe better" than Mr Gorbachev's. Mr Gorbachev visited Minnesota after the 1990 summit so Mr Yeltsin will visit Kansas

Martin Fletcher and Mary Dejevsky in Washington and Moscow report on the Russian leader's preparations for the first official US-Russia summit

whose senator, Robert Dole, was the only prominent American to greet him on his 1991 Washington visit.

Mr Yeltsin will also attempt the ultimate act of one-upmanship by trying to at least speak to Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the exiled Russian author living in Vermont. "It's the meat of politics," observed a senior State Department official. "You have a former president resentful that he's

no longer president, and a current president who sees his predecessor as a threat."

Mr Yeltsin yesterday attended Trinity Sunday liturgy at the monastic centre of Sergiev Posad (formerly Zagorsk) outside Moscow and received the blessing of the Moscow Patriarch before the summit. Afterwards, Mr Yeltsin stood with Patriarch Aleksii II and addressed the crowd, calling on Russians to

show "patience, humility and spiritual purity". "I came here today for purification before my long journey," Mr Yeltsin said. "With the blessing I have received, I hope that I will accomplish my mission successfully."

Mr Bush now views the Russian president, like Mr Gorbachev before him, as his country's last best hope and in serious need of public support. Like his counterpart, Mr Bush also faces serious domestic problems and the summit is a chance to look presidential and point up the foreign policy experience of Messrs Clinton and Perot. Mr Bush has little in common with the impulsive,

hard-drinking Russian, but the summit will be a welter of accords and public displays of friendship. Strenuous efforts will be made to show the two old enemies are now firm allies. There will be none of the whispered smears about Mr Yeltsin's boorish buffoonery, to which the administration resorted when Mr Gorbachev was its favourite.

In an interview with Russian television and *Evzvestia* newspaper last week, Mr Yeltsin said that he tried to attend church at least once a month because he felt it did him good. Last year, he struck another popular chord when he told an interviewer that, although he was brought up

an atheist and felt awkward in church, he none the less gained spiritual refreshment from attending services.

In London on Friday, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and Andrei Kozyrev, his Russian counterpart, came close to agreement on cutting their nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels in more than 15 years, leaving the announcement to the presidents.

At the Russians' insistence, Mr Bush and Mr Yeltsin will sign a grandiloquent "Washington Charter" proclaiming a new US-Russian relationship of "cooperation and partnership" and the end of ideological confrontation.

"We don't normally do these things," sniffed a White House official.

The two men will sign treaties on trade, investment and taxation to accelerate American private sector involvement in Russia. Mr Bush is likely to award Russia "most favoured nation" trading status. The Commerce Department has organised a concurrent business summit.

There will be an agreement on space cooperation and the administration is considering a joint manned space mission. The two leaders will discuss the creation of an international early warning system against ballistic missile launches.

Church calls on Milosevic to go

FROM EVE-ANN PRENTICE AND DESSA TREVISAN

A CLAP of thunder marked the beginning of a day of protest in Belgrade yesterday as the Serbian leader, Slobodan Milosevic, faced swelling opposition to his regime in his own heartland.

The Serbian Orthodox Church led a procession of about 10,000 people through the streets of the Serbian capital shortly before several thousand anti-war protesters gathered outside the parliament building to demand Mr Milosevic's resignation.

The demonstrations came as the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, was licking its wounds after a savage day of shelling on Saturday. Local radio reported 14 people dead and 24 wounded. But the guns of Sarajevo fell silent yesterday while United Nations peacekeepers tried to negotiate the reopening of the city's airport with Serb and Muslim leaders, to allow relief supplies to

be delivered. The UN negotiator, Lewis McKenzie, said a battalion of Canadian troops was on standby to take over the airport. However, Western observers are pessimistic about the chances of a unilateral ceasefire announced by Radovan Karadzic, the Serb leader in Bosnia, and due to come into force today. At the weekend Mr Karadzic denounced irregular Serb forces attacking Sarajevo, admitting that at least some of the fighting is out of his control.

The twin protests in Belgrade came after composers, musicians and opera singers protested against Mr Milosevic outside his presidential palace on Saturday. Students from Belgrade University are due to hold their own demonstration today.

Yesterday's church-led march followed the Orthodox synod's recent condemnation of Mr Milosevic. Patriarch

Pavle told the crowd: "The voice of our synod was raised and they said: we were interfering in politics. We regret that these people do not have ears to hear or eyes to see; the Serbian church is not proposing its own solution but wants all sides to be guided by reason. Let us not forget that we stand before God... Let not our ancestors be ashamed and turn their heads away."

The thousands of Orthodox marchers who swelled into Belgrade's streets represented middle-class Serbia. The so-called civic movement protesters outside parliament rang bells, set off alarm clocks and jangled keys to portray their hope that time is running out for Mr Milosevic. The demonstration was led by leaders of the Peasant party and Reform party. Armed police made no attempt to interfere.

Vuk Draskovic, the main Serbian opposition leader and arch-enemy of the Milosevic regime, launched a new attack on the Serb leader at the weekend. Flanked by bodyguards, he said: "I would like to explain to my countrymen that the Serbs' enemy is not in Moscow, London, Washington or Bonn, but right here in the Serbian capital."

Mr Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, added: "There can be no saving of Serbia without the resignation of the president and his followers. Goebbels was a baby compared to him. Most young Serbs are against him, the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Serbian Academy of Sciences, the associations of Serbian writers, lawyers, football players, engineers, solicitors — everyone who is still able to think for themselves is still opposed to Milosevic."

● **British protest:** Britain has formally protested to Yugoslavia at the harassment of foreign journalists and called on the Belgrade government to investigate recent attacks (Michael Binyon writes).

The British embassy said in a statement at the weekend that it was following with concern "the increasing cases of verbal, material and physical harassment against foreign journalists". Serb militants have threatened a number of foreign correspondents, and an unknown assailant last week shot at Dossa Trevisan of *The Times*, wounding her in the hand.

"Such cowardly and disgraceful acts of intimidation against a defenceless woman journalist cannot be excused or justified by any political aims or ideologies," the embassy said. It called on the Serbian government to condemn publicly such acts and ensure that those responsible were arrested and punished.

Russians blamed for battle in enclave

FROM BRUCE CLARK
IN MOSCOW

ARMENIAN leaders in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh have blamed Russian mercenaries and Turkish military advisers for the weekend's bloody attacks by Azerbaijan. But they claimed to have halted the advance yesterday, despite the loss of 15 villages.

In neighbouring Georgia, Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, faced his gravest challenge in the three months since he took power, as prospects grew for a head-on confrontation with Russia. Tbilisi, the capital, was shaken by a professional terrorist attack that killed five people.

The latest fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh, said by local leaders to have claimed at least 200 lives, followed an Azerbaijani offensive with heavy armour on the areas around Martakert and Askeran in the east of the enclave and on Sharmyranovsk, just to the north of it. Officials in Stepanakert, the enclave's capital, alleged that chemical bombs had been dropped around Sharmyranovsk, an ethnic Armenian town which the Karabakh authorities have sought to incorporate in their self-proclaimed independent state.

Commanders of the Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh said Azerbaijan's latest offensive had been made possible by a fresh acquisition of tanks from the former Soviet garrison and the recruitment as mercenaries of many Russian tank drivers and infantrymen.

Armenian leaders also alleged that military advisers from Turkey, which has close ethnic ties with Azerbaijan, had helped draw up a plan for regaining control of Nagorno-Karabakh and reversing last month's spectacular Armenian successes.

The fragile position of the former Soviet garrison in Transcaucasia was further underlined yesterday by a bloody but abortive attack on the barracks of a tank regiment in Gor, the Georgian town best known as the birthplace of Stalin. At least 14 people, including three Russian soldiers, were killed in the shooting that followed the raid by Georgian National Guardsmen. The incident will gravely embarrass Mr Shevardnadze and may have been organised for that purpose. He has been struggling to limit the damage to Russian-Georgian relations from the racial war raging a few miles north of Gor, between Georgian forces that he does not fully control and Ossetian fighters who want to unite with Russia.



Child's homage: a boy lighting a candle yesterday at a Bucharest cross commemorating victims of the Romanian uprising

German right beats drum against rule by Eurocrats

FROM IAN MURRAY
IN DEGGENDORF, BAVARIA

THE anti-Berlinskian vision of "a Europe of the fatherlands" was conjured up in Deggen-dorf over the weekend at the national conference of the Republicans, the radical right-wing party, one of whose chief aims is the demolition of the European Community.

"Europe — yes! This EC — no!" Franz Schönhuber, the party's leader, told 500 cheering delegates from all over the united country. "We will do everything, including at the international level, to ensure that Maastricht in its intended form is never established," said Herr Schönhuber, who was elected a Euro-MP three years ago.

"We thank the Danes. They are just as good Europeans as

we are. And we, too, do not want to see our sovereignty, and that means our money, sacrificed on the altar of the Brussels Eurocrats."

That was just what the conference wanted to hear and, to judge by the most recent opinion polls, what a great majority of Germans also feel. About 300 young left-wingers paraded in protest before the meeting began and the hall was barricaded and guarded throughout by police officers with dogs. But there was less trouble than at recent conferences.

Herr Schönhuber, whose main political tenet is that he is German and proud of it, believes that the growing unpopularity of the EC will inevitably bring him power. All the main established parties are losing members, but he

claims that every day 60 join the Republicans and there are already 20,000 of them.

The party's stronghold is Bavaria, but there are now 400 local Republican councillors around the country, and in April the party shocked the government by winning 11 per cent of the vote and 15 seats in the Baden-Württemberg state.

Only two years ago splits in the party nearly led to its disintegration. The failure of the established parties to control the influx of refugees and the growing view that Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, has sold the German mark for Brussels-style federalism has given the Republicans new heart.

Dangerous Delors, page 14
Letters, page 15

NEWS IN BRIEF

Break-up warning by Havel

A LAST-minute postponement of the latest round of urgent talks designed to save the Czechoslovak federation was followed by a warning yesterday from President Havel that the country could go "the Yugoslav way" (Gerard Davies writes from Prague).

Mr Havel said in his regular Sunday broadcast that the negotiations, which have ended in deadlock twice so far, could result in a transformation of the federation or in division of the country.

"We can also imagine by far the worst [option], with no directed process but chaos: there won't be any referendum, just one-sided declarations and permanent political crisis. And that I would say is a Yugoslav way — a confrontational way, a dangerous way. That way could have real dangerous consequences for the citizens of both republics and for all of Central Europe."

Titanic death

Boston: Marjorie Robb, the last survivor of the 1912 sinking of the Titanic, has died in Fall River, Massachusetts, aged 103. She and her sister survived the sinking, but their father, Arthur Newell, drowned. (Reuters)

Saliva clue

Palermo: Italian police said they had identified the genetic fingerprints of one of the killers of the leading anti-Mafia judge, Giovanni Falcone, in traces of saliva found on cigarette ends. (AFP)

Rebel dies

Algiers: Omar Oussedik, a leader in the struggle against colonial rule, has died, aged 72. He was imprisoned in 1942 and played a key role in the eight-year armed struggle that ousted France from North Africa. (AP)

Politician dies

Karachi: An opposition politician suspected of harbouring bandits died during army interrogation in southern Pakistan, where the army has launched a big operation against criminal and political violence, police said. (Reuters)

Child falls 90ft

Southfield, Michigan: A two-year-old boy who fell from a ninth-floor window landed on a bush that pulled off his nappy but saved his life. Joshua Beatty suffered only a scratch on his forehead in the 90ft fall. (AFP)

Stand collapses

Yaounde: A grandstand collapsed, injuring 50 people, at the funeral of Mgr Albert Ndongo, a Roman Catholic priest who died in exile.

Macedonia issue stirs passions among the Greeks

FROM JOHN HOLLAND IN SKOPJE

THE Greek foreign ministry's leading expert on the Macedonian question, a scholar of normally amiable manner, shook with anger at the "out and out thievery" he said is currently taking place just beyond Greece's northern border.

"This is our cultural and historical identity and heritage the Skopje government are trying to steal," Dr Evangelos Kofos insisted, pointing to a map of northern Greece during a recent chat in his Athens office.

Behind him on bookshelves were literally dozens of books and papers, many which he authored, dealing exclusively with the Macedonian question. "There is only one Macedonia, that is Greek Macedonia. To be Macedonian is to be Greek."

Nearly 40 years ago Dr Kofos, himself a Greek Macedonian, wrote: "The Macedonian question really is a question for the student of history rather than a subject for policymakers." That position has helped earn Greece international scorn for its "the-name-means-everything" stand on Macedonia, and has helped hold up international recognition and aid for former Yugoslavia's southernmost republic. As EC foreign ministers meet today to consider recognition of Macedonia, some suggest Athens is engaged in a delaying tactic which could touch off a full-scale multi-national war in the Balkans. Greek officials staunchly stand by their position, arguing that the price of its vital support for sanctions against Serbia, which include stopping the flow of oil and goods from its port in Salonica, is its refusal to accept any sovereign republic with the name of Macedonia.

A few ultra-nationalist Greeks have even called for a military operation "to shut the Slav imposters up". They show sample postcards bought in landlocked Skopje showing white beaches — an obvious reference to the coast of northern Greece.

To Greeks the language spoken in what they dis-

missively refer to as the "Slav republic of Skopje" is not "Macedonian" but a derivation of Bulgarian — a home-made linguistic goulash liberally peppered with words from Czech, Poles and Russians would all recognise. The Skopje government runs well on this Greek animosity, playing up its role of martyr and adding a dash of Byzantine conspiracy to fuel the debate. "There is a feeling that the Greeks will do everything in their power, even break a UN embargo on Serbia, to prevent the creation of an independent republic on their northern border," one member of the Macedonian presidency claimed to visitors.

Sasha, a Skopje journalist of part Grecian origin who writes for the daily *Novo Makedonia*, asked "What would we take over northern Greece with 30,000 poorly trained territorialists, lots of unemployment and a run-down economy? Come on."

Raising the name Alexander the Great leaves most Slavic Skopjans largely cold but makes Greek politicians in the government of the prime minister, Constantine Mitsotakis, shudder in fear for their jobs. As a result "Macedonia has been Greek for over 3,000 years" stickers have sprouted up all over Greece and many Salonicans can be seen sporting lapel pins showing the star of ancient Macedonia.

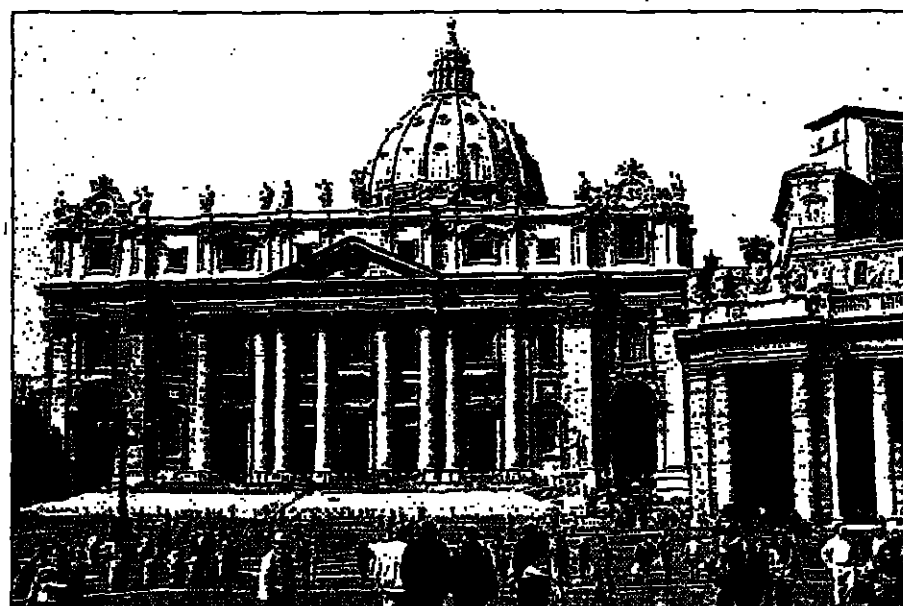
There is now also a "Macedonia" airport in northern Greece and a naval frigate renamed "Macedonia".

A few months ago Greeks even boycotted Dutch and Italian goods after their foreign ministers said they favoured recognition of the republic of Macedonia. This is clearly an issue which holds such symbolic weight for the Greeks that they have even forgotten about the Cyprus question for the moment.

"What's in a name?" one University of Salonica Balkan Studies professor repeated in response to the innocent-sounding question. "Everything in this case." Professor Kalliopei Koufa explained as she wove her way neatly through the agonising twists and turns of Greek, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Albanian and Thracian history. "The people here feel they are the only Macedonians, which designates a geographical area and not a race of people. I'm sad to say our government in Athens will not budge on the name question, knowing it will fall if it does."

Vatican accused of obstructing best view of St Peter's

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME



Divine intervention: environmentalists claim the Vatican's new building will spoil views of St Peter's Basilica

BUILDING work under way in the Vatican on a residence for bishops has outraged Italian environmentalists who say that it will obscure one of the finest views of the dome of St Peter's Basilica.

Work on the Casa Santa Marta, just inside the Vatican, began in February. According to *Italia Nostra*, the environmental pressure group, the new building is three storeys higher than the one it replaces. Antonio Cederna, chairman of *Italia Nostra's* Rome branch, told a press conference that the new prelates residence will obscure the view of the cupola of the basilica from the Porta Cavalleggeri area of Rome, which is considered to give the best view of Michelangelo's dome.

In April, residents in surrounding streets became alarmed when workmen knocked a hole in the Leonine wall of the Vatican. The breach in the wall was sealed later.

Giulio Carlo Argan, the art historian, wrote to Giulio Andreotti, caretaker prime minister, and asked whether the work was a violation of the 1984 concordat between Italy and the Vatican. The Holy See replied in a letter that the Vatican had the right "to intervene autonomously on buildings located on its own territory, including the walls that mark out its borders."

However, Signor Cederna disagreed. "The urban landscape cannot count as part of the absolute sovereignty

of the church over the cultural heritage inside Vatican City," he said. He added that the sovereignty of the Vatican appeared to be so strong that "if the Pope wanted to construct a skyscraper in place of St Peter's, he could do so."

Massimo Stoppa, the Vatican chief civil engineer, replied: "What is happening is a campaign of denigration of the Holy See. We decided to knock down the Casa Santa Marta because it was a dangerous building. We want to build a structure that will not remove the view of the dome of St Peter's." Signor Stoppa denied that a hole had been knocked in the Vatican wall. *Italia Nostra* has said that it will refer the issue to Unesco.

UK hopes to shame nations into action

FROM MICHAEL MCCARTHY
IN RIO
AND JAMIE DETTMER
IN WASHINGTON

REGULAR international embarrassment is seen by Britain as the tool to save the planet, in the follow-up to the Earth summit that ended in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

The annual exposure of lagging nations and institutions, in a new and highly public forum of the United Nations, is the only practical way, the government feels, to steer the world economy down an environmentally friendly path before it exhausts the Earth's capacity to cope.

President Bush left the summit in a defiant mood and testily shrugged off criticism of his administration's record on protecting the environment. He said he had no apologies to make for opposing a treaty to protect endangered plants and animals and for watering down the accord on reducing the threat of global warming.

The proposed world watchdog, the Sustainable Development Commission, will be set up by the UN General Assembly at the summit's request in the autumn and British



ain is leading those countries hoping that it will have real powers of embarrassment. It may not: a diplomatic battle will be fought over the issue. Britain would like to see all nations of the world, and all the UN's own institutions, making regular published reports to the new commission of their progress towards sustainable development via Agenda 21, the summit's huge and detailed work programme. The government hopes that those not changing, or falling behind, will be encouraged to reform by peer group pressure within the

international community. Some Third World nations, led by India and Malaysia, have shown particular hostility at the summit to any outside interference in the way they manage their own natural resources, such as forests, and regard Britain's idea of reporting regularly to the commission on their activities as "ecological imperialism". America, mindful of the big-business interests of the Republican Party, was also uneasy at the idea.

The most Britain could obtain in summit negotiations was language allowing the commission to consider national reports if countries decided to put them forward, but not compelling any country to do so. The government intends to lead by example. In his speech at the summit, Michael Howard, the environment secretary, promised that Britain would report regularly to the new commission, the first minister to commit his country to do so.

Before leaving Rio for Camp David in Maryland, President Bush said: "America's record on environmental protection is second to none, so I did not come here to apologise." He denied that his call for an early start on reducing emissions of global-warming pollutants was not welcomed by other leaders. "The developed nations want to meet the commitments they've signed up for, so I've not found that it wasn't well received at all."

The global warming treaty sets a deadline of the end of the century for meeting emission control goals. Mr Bush has urged leaders to meet again on January 1 to report on their specific plans to reduce emissions. So far, no other leaders have committed themselves to attend.

His initiative on doubling expenditure on conserving the world's rainforests has also failed to gain the support he had hoped for. As with the idea for a January meeting, some environmentalists say that the proposal was made to deflect criticism of his refusal to sign the biodiversity treaty. Mr Bush said that the treaty "threatened to retard biotechnology and undermine the protection of ideas".

Much of the effectiveness of the new UN commission will depend on its precise remit, which will be decided by the UN General Assembly. "It will be a battle," a senior government source said. Nations uneasy at the idea of the commission's scrutiny of their records will be keen to neuter it from the start.

Britain has begun to consider a diplomatic offensive to secure support from other countries. A powerful ally may be Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, who showed himself at the summit as an outspoken advocate of environmental protection.

Rio compromise, page 1
Leading article, page 15



Eyes down: President Castro of Cuba passing President Bush as they take their place in a line-up of heads of state for a group photograph in Rio

Major misses the Rio lunch

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY

ONE hundred and three world leaders sat down at the same table to lunch at the weekend and then posed for photographers to show their united concern for the future of the Earth.

John Major, back in Britain for Trooping the Colour, was one of three notable absentees from the Earth summit's symbolic lunch. Boris Yeltsin of Russia similarly found politics at home too pressing to attend, as did Kiichi Miyazawa, the Japanese prime minister, who is preoccupied with the debate about Japan's participation in United Nations peacekeeping forces.

Mr Miyazawa's attempt to address the summit via satellite television was ruled out of order by Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-gen-

eral. In another diplomatic hitch, Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, missed his chance to speak when the timetable was rearranged. Offered the choice of waiting until evening to address all the leaders of the world, or accepting a lift home in President Mitterrand's Concorde, M Delors chose the latter.

Fernando Collor de Mello, the Brazilian president, seated between François Mitterrand and President Moi of Kenya, presided at the meal, served on a huge rectangular table covered in more than 100 yards of white linen. Short speeches by President Collor and Dr Boutros Ghali were toasted in fruit juice by the Muslim leaders, and in Moët-et-Chandon champagne by the rest. President

Collor then led his colleagues to a specially constructed stand for the group photographs. Mr Bush left for Washington and the 102 remaining leaders trooped into the summit room for an hour-long round-table discussion.

Maurice Strong, secretary-general of the Earth summit, addressed the assembly. "You have the power, you have a unique opportunity, and most of all you have the responsibility," he said. "I believe that the world will remember all of you and hold you all accountable."

Eloquent as much of his speech was, it will not stay in the memory like the meeting's final image — that of more than 100 world leaders lining up to leave the room, like diners in a canteen queue.

Big powers settle for compromise in forests pact

Third World countries exploiting their forests forced the watering down of a vital accord, Michael McCarthy writes

THE first world agreement on forests, a set of principles for forest management and conservation, was added at the weekend to the Earth summit's two treaties on wildlife and countering global warming.

However, it fell far short of the legally binding world forest convention that had been sought, in particular by the United States and Britain. Malaysia led a group of Third World countries fiercely hostile to any such binding treaty, which they saw as the "internationalisation" of their sovereign natural resources. The final, diluted language of the agreement reached at Rio is interpreted by Britain and America as holding the door open to an eventual forest treaty. But that is not how the Malaysians and their allies, who include India and Indonesia, interpret it.

Yet the international, as opposed to national, value of forests is established in the text, albeit in coded phrases, with one key point made explicit: forests are recognised as important "sinks" for carbon dioxide, the industrial gas held responsible for the greenhouse effect, which trees absorb as they grow.

Opposition to the widespread destruction of tropical rainforests maintained by environmentalists for ecological and cultural reasons has another significance for the industrialised countries. Preserving as much of the world's forests as possible is a principal objective of America, the world's biggest carbon dioxide emitter, and securing a forest agreement was the main aim of the United States at the summit, according to William Reilly, head of the US Environmental Protection Agency and leader of the American delegation at Rio.

John Major also expressed disappointment that a direct path to a binding forest treaty had not been laid down. America and Britain are certain to return to the issue, probably in the new Sustainable Development Commission, which will keep the forest principles "under assessment with regard to further international co-operation on forest issues". The countries with tropical forests went some way to conceding that they should develop them in a sustainable way.

Solid success, on the other hand, was achieved with the summit's wildlife and global warming treaties, the conventions on biodiversity, or species protection, and climate change. When the summit closed yesterday, 152 countries had signed the biodiversity convention — America being the notable exception — and 150, includ-

ing America, the climate treaty, which the Americans have promised to take the lead in ratifying, even though it was watered down at their insistence.

"It is astonishing, and entirely unprecedented, for so many countries to have signed within days of such conventions being open for signature," Michael Howard, the environment secretary, said in Rio yesterday. Mr Major signed both treaties for Britain on Friday.

Many diplomats feel that the Earth summit's single

Summit aims

Worsening Third World poverty and environmental degradation underlay the summit's aims, which were:

□ A declaration of principles for the pursuit of sustainable development.

□ A detailed programme to carry out this agenda.

□ A new United Nations Sustainable Development Commission to oversee its implementation.

□ Agreement on funding, with new environmental aid for the Third World. All the above were agreed unanimously by all UN member states.

□ Two legally binding conventions, on climate change and biodiversity, were signed by most countries. The United States refused to sign the biodiversity treaty, the summit's one official failure.

□ The summit agreed on the world's first statement of principles for the sustainable management and conservation of forests, which is not legally binding.

□ The summit sought to give impetus to all these agreements by gathering world leaders to sign them.

greatest achievement has been in setting a tight deadline for these two treaties to be negotiated.

In Tokyo, *Asahi Shimbun*, Japan's main daily newspaper, attacked Kiichi Miyazawa, the prime minister, yesterday for cancelling his visit to the Earth summit because of domestic politics.

It said Mr Miyazawa would be responsible for any benefits Japan lost through his absence in view of demands by other nations that it should take a positive role in protecting the environment.

Mr Miyazawa cancelled his Rio trip after a bitter parliamentary battle over a government troops bill that would allow Tokyo to send soldiers abroad as United Nations peacekeepers.

But Japan did announce at the Earth summit an expansion of funding for environmental programmes.

Quayle uses scare tactics in attack on 'risky' Perot

FROM JAMIE DETTMER
IN WASHINGTON
AND BEN MACINTYRE
IN NEW YORK

ROSS Perot was on every Democratic and Republican politician's mind, if not on their lips, over the weekend. In a sharp attack, Dan Quayle, the vice-president, depicted the Texan challenger as a "temperamental tycoon", and Governor Bill Clinton sought to distance himself from his party's left wing in an effort to attract middle-of-the-road voters and keep them from defecting to Mr Perot's growing camp.

Mr Quayle's attack, the most direct so far by a senior figure in the Bush administration, marked a shift in tactics by the White House that until now has studiously ignored Mr Perot's challenge. Vice-President Quayle, who held little back in his speech to a conservative legal group, warned Americans that Mr Perot, who will announce officially his presidential candidature this month, was a "risky prospect". His description of the billionaire as a "temperamental tycoon" drew an immediate and angry response from Perot aides, who accused Mr Quayle of trying to distort the Texan's persona in the public mind.

In an effort to penetrate the mystique of Mr Perot, American publishers are falling over each other, and Mr Perot, to produce biographies. At least six books have



Perot: six books claim to tell the whole truth

been, or are about to be, published, each purporting to disclose the unpurified truth about what makes the business tycoon tick. Most are unauthorised, some are reprints and at least one is a straight pot-boiler.

Mr Quayle's remarks gained added force by their timing. With the anniversary of the Watergate affair on Wednesday, Mr Quayle's audience was in little doubt of the parallels the vice-president was trying to draw between the Nixon White House and a possible Perot one. "There is no doubt that he has tapped into a deep well of frustration," Mr Quayle said. "He draws his appeal largely from the claim that he is a man who can 'get things done', even if he is reluctant to say exactly what 'things' he has in mind."

Mr Quayle urged voters to elect a Republican Congress to work with a second-term President Bush, or choose

Governor Clinton who could work with the Democrat-controlled Congress. Although delighting conservatives, Mr Quayle's speech failed to please President Bush, who declined to endorse it and said he was "unenthusiastic" about his deputy's argument that voters would be wiser to elect a Democrat president than Mr Perot.

Mr Bush's unhappiness with the speech reflects deep confusion in the Republican camp over the best ways of dealing with Mr Perot. Should the Texan be characterised as a liberal who favours abortion, a dangerous authoritarian who would ride roughshod over the constitution, or as a businessman who often changes his mind on issues and just wants to buy the White House?

Similar divisions are clouding the Democrats' approach to Mr Perot. But Clinton strategists argue that they should allow the press and the Republicans a clear run at Mr Perot. "Our big quarrel is with George Bush and what he has done to the country for 12 years," George Stephanopoulos, Mr Clinton's campaign spokesman, said.

However, the Clinton camp is determined not to allow Mr Perot the opportunity to stake a claim to middle-of-the-road floating voters. On Saturday, Mr Clinton mounted a sharp attack on his party's left wing, including the black rap singer, Sister Souljah, whose comments after the Los Angeles riots, Mr Clinton said, were "filled with hatred".

Terry Waite wins Roosevelt award

Terry Waite received the Freedom of Worship award from the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park, New York, and said that a biography of the late American president helped him to survive his five-year ordeal as a hostage in Beirut. He said that he was given the biography by his captors in Lebanon.

The Freedom From Fear award was given to Lord Carrington, the European Community mediator in the Yugoslav conflict. The former Soviet dissident and conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, Mstislav Rostropovich, received the Freedom of Speech and Expression award. And the Freedom from Want award was presented to Nobel Prize laureate Jan Tinbergen of Holland. A fifth prize, the Four Freedoms Award, was given to Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the former UN secretary-general.

Carlos Westendorp, Spain's secretary of state for the European Community, has emerged as the front-runner to succeed Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, the foreign minister, who is suffering from cancer. Other candidates are Javier Solana, minister of education, Narcís Serra, deputy prime minister and chief liaison with the ruling Spanish Workers' Socialist Party, and Carlos Solchaga, the finance minister, who would upset the Gi-

bratarians more than the Spanish unions.

The South Korean consul-general in the Brazilian city of São Paulo, Kim Jong Min, is to be disciplined for failing to meet Chung Won Shik, his prime minister, at Rio airport and leaving him to ride into town on a bus to attend the Earth summit.

India's maestro of the sitar, Ravi Shankar, who has travelled the globe for seven decades making his music, has decided it is time to stick closer to his Delhi home, where he composes music for films and orchestras and teaches talented protégés.

Israel has given a red carpet welcome to Mikhail Gorbachev, who as president of the former Soviet Union allowed Jews to emigrate en masse and renewed diplomatic ties with Israel, when he arrived with his wife, Raisa, on his first visit to Israel. They were greeted by David Levy, the Israeli foreign minister.

New Zealand's former prime minister, Sir Robert Muldoon, 70, has been admitted to hospital for tests after complaining of nausea and disturbed sleep.

The prime minister of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif, will pay an official visit to China in October.

Lesbians angered as TV tones down tale of Vita's love affairs

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN NEW YORK

THE American co-producers of the BBC television mini-series, *Portrait of a Marriage*, have been criticised by gay and lesbian activists for allegedly toning down the more explicit homosexual scenes in the film, in deference to American prejudices.

WGBH-TV in Boston, the company that co-produced the series with the BBC, is distributing the film, to be shown on American public television next month, with 34 minutes of the original version removed. *Portrait of a Marriage*, screened in full in Britain in autumn 1990, depicts the relationship between the writer Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson, whose marriage survived homosexual affairs by both partners.

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance against Defamation, a group based in Los Angeles that monitors the depiction of homosexuals, said that the editing had reduced the lesbian affair between Vita Sackville-West and the writer Violet Trefusis from "a joyful and loving relationship" to "a passing whim". The activists argue that this shows a refusal to accept the reality of homosexuality and "distorts the history of a lesbian relationship".

The television company says the "minor editorial cuts" were made to adapt the film to a shorter American broadcast "window". It added that the cuts were



Vita Sackville-West: cuts make "joyful and loving relationship" into "passing whim"

"mostly for pacing and to move the story along. We haven't taken out any scene, maybe just a few seconds, when we felt they went a little further than was needed."

The company said it had also produced a second, even softer, version of the film in accordance with the public's "concerns and sensibilities", and would leave it to individual public television stations to decide which version to air.

William Dannemeyer, a Californian Republican and a leading opponent of gay rights, said yesterday that the film should not be shown in America in any form, because it suggested that there was not much

difference "between homo and hetero". It would therefore make the portrayal of homosexuality on television more socially acceptable, a development he opposed.

Paul Mero, Mr Dannemeyer's chief spokesman, told the *New York Post*: "That is just one way that they [homosexuals] get their noses in the tent. Further down the road they will ask us to accept even uglier scenes."

Colin Tucker, the film's British co-producer, said he objected to the cuts, but refused to comment on whether they were anti-gay. "It is a delicate situation," he said. "We at this end are trying to keep the lines of communication open."

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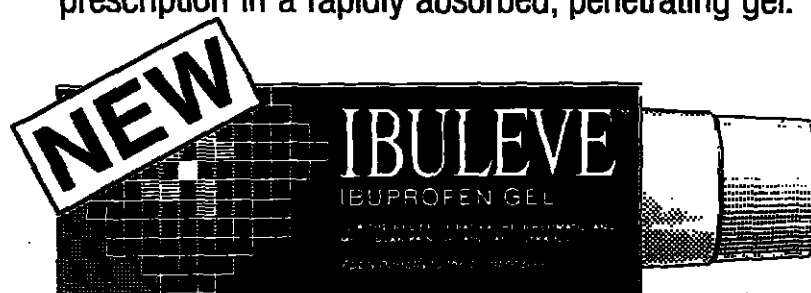


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Victor Arthy writes

PAIN RELIEF WITHOUT PILLS

The power of ibuprofen – one of today's most effective painkillers – is now available for the first time without prescription in a rapidly absorbed, penetrating gel.



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TENSE, nervous marketing directors take note. In May 1991, Ibuleve was launched solely in National press. Within three months, it had become brand leader in its sector, and within its first year grabbed nearly a third of market share. Results like these are as common as the common cold, because the printed word works where television can't. At the office, on the bus, in the doctor's waiting room. If you're trying to build a healthy business, get your product in the newspapers.

PEOPLE
READ
NEWSPAPERS

Where is the Opposition?

Labour's impotence is not good for government, writes Peter Riddell

What Britain needs now — and lacks — is a strong Opposition. That may not be John Major's first priority this morning as he considers how to end his party's disarray over Europe (where, incidentally, have long-standing pro-Europeans such as Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke been recently?). But he can console himself by looking across at the Labour benches: the party is divided not only over the Maastricht treaty but also over future strategy. I have seldom known morale among Labour leaders to be as low as it is now.

The after-shocks of April 9 are still being felt. Reclamations about the post-mortem reports for this week's meeting of the national executive underline the malaise: executive members, party staff and unofficial advisers each try to absolve themselves of blame. Over the past week, long-rumoured allegations about ballot rigging in shadow cabinet elections have been aired publicly, and one shadow spokesman has accused another of bouncing the party into shifting its policy on school opt-outs to save his political skin. The leadership elections drag on in their inward-looking way, as rival candidates either play it cautiously (in the case of John Smith, already assured of victory) or pander to the prejudices and interests of the electoral college (in the case of the three runners for the deputy leader's position).

The feeling of defeat after a fourth successive defeat should not be underrated. For two years shadow cabinet members were treated as potential ministers, courted by interest groups and the media, and even taken seriously by the government. But now nobody cares. Several television cameras used to attend each news conference; last week, one spokesman complained that he would be lucky to get on local radio. The Tories' 21-seat majority is proving decisive in practice. Europe apart, most Commons exchanges are hollow: ministers brush aside criticisms by their shadows. The message of ministers is, "We won, and, anyway, you are probably going to be reshuffled to a new shadow post in the summer". A visitor to the public gallery might at present think that the Opposition is led by Dennis Skinner.

Such a messy readjustment may have been inevitable after Neil Kinnock's decision to stand down. Pent-up frustrations have surfaced. On Europe, a combination of the hard-left, long-term doubters of Mr Kinnock's Euro-enthusiasm such as Peter Shore and Bryan Gould, and new MPs eager to attack the Tories, has challenged the previous support for the Maastricht bill, producing a messy wait-and-see position.

The John Smith camp argues that once the leadership elections are out of the way and a new shadow cabinet is chosen the Opposition will start to function properly again. Mr Smith himself

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

may be a sharp adversary for Mr Major at prime minister's questions. But few Labour MPs believe their difficulties can so quickly be resolved. They are depressed because they do not know what to do. Everything seemed to have been tried by Mr Kinnock. But Labour still lost.

Little comfort can be found in the post-election analysis. The latest row between the Market Research Society and the pollsters about whether opinion polls have been overstating Labour support for 30 years is a largely specious distraction from the central fact: the polls overestimated the party's backing in 1992. Pollsters have attributed much of the gap between the polls and the actual result to late switching and higher turnout among Tory than Labour supporters. A detailed survey by Mori suggested that switching

'A visitor to the public gallery might at present think that the Opposition is led by Dennis Skinner'

reflected confidence in Mr Major, concern about Mr Kinnock and worries about Labour's tax and spending plans among many voters who would not risk voting Liberal Democrat for fear of letting Labour in. But even maximum estimates of such late switching still leave a sizeable, unexplained discrepancy, according to the Market Research Society. Whatever the reasons, Labour support may have been lower than indicated throughout the campaign and the party may never have held the lead that so frightened some voters.

In any event, Labour cannot claim a near miss. Its difficulties are not of presentation or tactics but are deep seated. Its internal analysis says that Labour was seen "as a party of the past" with "a set of negative and off-putting associations" and "too much baggage from the late 70s and early 80s to persuade people that they can fully trust us". Mr Smith probably has about 18 months to set the party on the right lines, to change the links with the unions and to review policy — to make Labour look at least potentially credible.

Meanwhile the government has a largely free ride. Mr Major's troubles over Europe come primarily from his own side: Labour is not the main obstacle. If he can satisfy most Tory MPs that the rest of the EC backs the Maastricht treaty, with a suitable declaration to meet Danish and British worries, then it will be ratified. Governments do, of course, trip up and the Tories could be in trouble in 1994 if the economy remains flat. At present, however, ministers can do what they want. That is in itself unhealthy, since we have so few other checks on a strong executive: pluralism is weak in Britain. Internal Tory party debates are no substitute for a convincing Labour Opposition.

The Foreign Office must justify its support for the commission president, says Martin Ivens

Dangerous Delors

If one man were to take responsibility for the Danish "no" vote in the referendum on the Maastricht treaty, it would be the president of the European Commission himself, Jacques Delors. More than half way through a close campaign, M Delors let it be known by the usual process of nudge, wink and leak from Brussels that further institutional reform of the Community was on the way. The president of the commission, it was whispered, would become president of the entire Community, chairing "a cabinet government for Europe". Those rumours won the Danish Euro-sceptics their case. "I wonder what M Delors thinks he is going to be doing after January 1?" asked the despairing Danish foreign minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen. The British government is about to help answer the question for him by agreeing to extend his contract. It is a strategy that carries risks.

There is a frivolous argument, which appeals to Euro-sceptics, for giving Europe's "Demon King" another two-year extension to his term of office. This is that M Delors, the personification of Brussels aggrandisement, is the only man capable of uniting the disparate

and sometimes contradictory forces set against the treaty. Could his enthusiasm bring the Maastricht edifice tumbling down?

The second argument for more Delors, the conciliatory one, goes like this. The commission president has learnt from the Danish vote the dangers of ignoring public opinion. After harsh words from Douglas Hurd and his colleagues, for instance, he has already backed down on bringing his reform proposals to this month's Lisbon summit. In recent speeches he has emphasised the commission's willingness to forgo interference with the small change of national life. He deplores such absurdities as the harmonisation of sausages or the mooted ban on flavoured crisps. From now on he will be a good subsidiser.

Neither argument does justice to the man nor to the case for Maastricht. M Delors is not only a skilled administrator but a politician of principle. It is no more sensible to ask M Delors to abandon his vision of Europe than

to ask Mrs Thatcher to become a federalist. They represent fixed points in the argument. Perhaps M Delors will keep his head down until the Irish and French have voted "yes" in their referendums. Perhaps he won't. He has pushed hard this month for a bigger, wealthier Community budget to pay for European "cohesion", despite withdrawal of support by his ally, Helmut Kohl. This lame duck can still peck.

For M Delors remains a passionate visionary. As he sees it, "we have to move fast or Europe will become an archaeological site where the Americans and Japanese come to dig over defunct ways of life". He has used to deadly effect the powers of the commission to "participate in the shaping of measures". In the early 1980s the traditional motor of EC progress, the Franco-German axis, was splintering. The relationship between President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl lacked the personal chemistry of de

Gaulle-Adenauer and Giscard-Schmidt. The budget row with Britain was at deadlock. Had Europe a future?

To the rescue in 1985 came the dapper Delors with a programme to complete the EC according to the founders' goals. A defence union, monetary union, reform of the EC structure and completion of the internal market were proposed. M Delors has not departed a whit from his strategy. He has become the greatest holder of the commission presidency.

The Foreign Office takes a pragmatic view of giving Delors another two-year lease of life. Its favoured candidate for the job, Ruud Lubbers, is not prepared to give up domestic office in Holland until 1995 and then only for a full five-year term. The others have even greater drawbacks. The Spanish prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez, would demand huge sums for the Mediterranean countries as compensation for monetary union. The former German foreign minister, Hans Dietrich

Genscher, is an enthusiast for greater European union. And if we did veto M Delors, British officials argue, he would make life hell for the British during his last six months of office, which coincide with our presidency of the Council of Ministers. What would happen to the British goal of enlargement? Besides, a deal is a deal — Britain has unofficially promised Germany that it will not veto Delors. Everyone knows this except Parliament and the people.

Pragmatism is not enough. The Foreign Office fears Parliament, but if it persists in ignoring domestic opinion it is liable to get its chief minister into hot water. Mr Hurd must remember how Lord Carrington, too, straddled the Foreign Office like a colossus but was brought low by the vulgar crowd. If Britain has an unofficial pact with Germany it is time Mr Hurd articulated the gains.

John Major has a slim majority easily undermined by a few rebels. Why should he want a politically ambitious statesman at the helm in Europe, even a benign one such as Mr Lubbers? If an emollient politician cannot be found, there is a very strong case for appointing a civil servant used to accepting orders, not giving them.

Bernard Levin celebrates the opening of the floodgates of legal criticism

The cat has recently been found (with a huge smile on its face and the remains of a sardine in the corner of its mouth) out of the bag. A considerable raising of legal eyebrows has been noted lately, anent the May issue of a magazine called *Legal Business*. Under the demure heading "Chancery", there was a feature, on pp 22-25, which essayed a comparative study of High Court judges, and their lordships were ranked not by their golf handicaps but under the encouraging rubric *The Most Respected and The Least Respected*.

But first I must turn to the front of the magazine, where the editor, John Pritchard, offers his own comments, strictly *obiter*, as each *Legal Business* appears. In the May issue he turns to Mr Justice Harman, and these are some of the things he says (Mr Pritchard does make clear that the judge has "a thorough understanding of the law" and is "possessed of a well-developed legal intellect").

The judge should be seen to be even-handed, fair, and reasonable... It is my submission that, on this test, Harman fails abysmally — and his conduct should therefore disqualify him from being a High Court judge... his behaviour in court... undermines the very credibility of English law and he does a disservice to all involved in the legal process... the behaviour of Harman is unacceptable. He is not suited for the bench... he holds a public office and his behaviour reflects upon the integrity of that office... Harman is an embarrassment to the bench...

I now turn to the survey of judges in general. Mr Justice Harman carried off the prize for the least respected judge with such unanimity that the adjudicators could not find a runner-up; there were black marks for Mr Justice Hobhouse, but his critics were to an extent set off by his admirers; in the case of Mr Justice Harman, and him alone, there were no votes

in the "Respected" column. Two of the critical comments on him should be singled out: "He can take an enormous dislike to one party", and "He... tends to jump to conclusions early on". (Even I can see that either of those qualities should deter him from judicial office, let alone both.)

That is all very merry, but I did not come here today to denounce Mr Justice Harman, if only because he does not seem to need any more denouncing, having acquired the maximum available. I have a different motive in view.

It is my belief that if *Legal Business* had existed a dozen or 15 years ago, and had published those comments on a High Court judge, the editor and publisher would have been committed for contempt of court, and if I had quoted them as I have, I too would have found myself in the dock. Let me widen the ambit of this study. What do you think would have happened to Ludovic Kennedy, Paul Foot, Robert Kee, myself and others (but not Chris Mullin, because he would have had parliamentary immunity), if in attacking some of the highest judges in our system we had at that time used similarly extravagant, though fully justified, terms? I cannot be sure, but I have a clue. In 1973, a judge with a rather short fuse was on his way to Teesside Crown Court in the judicial motor car, wearing his robes of office. A disgruntled ratepayer, mistaking the judge in his judicial finery for the mayor in his, gave the good justice a two-fingered salute, whereupon my lord swelled up almost to bursting-point and had the man arrested, saying, "It is a very serious matter indeed to do what you did... I have jurisdiction, you know, to send you to prison."

I wrote about this absurd busi-



ness in terms of both amusement and amazement: for all my cynical view of the bench, I could hardly believe what had happened. Well, I think it could not happen today: why? After all, self-regard, arrogance, pomposity and bad temper (to say nothing of coms, hay-fever and gallstones), have not disappeared from the judicial scene, yet the things said even of senior

judges are now said without fear of judicial retribution.

The present Lord Chancellor has helped: his relaxed demeanour is a powerful trip-wire for high horses. But the weight of the revolution is — must be — the appalling series of miscarriages of justice that have indelibly stained our entire legal system in the last decade or so. Again and again the

Court of Appeal got it wrong — hopelessly, scandalously and inexcusably wrong — while innocent men and women dragged out decades of prison because those wiggled boobies were simply not up to their jobs. It is a mark of their unfitness for office that there has been only one judicial public apology from the bench in all the scandals. (No, dear readers, it was not from Lord Donaldson.)

No apologies; but there is something more important. The judges are running scared. The idea of a lay assessor joining them on the bench is now a nightmare, not a dream; why do you think that there has been a hugely visible and audible decrease in judicial vanity and — much more significant — certainty. This is not just a matter of more sophistication, but a realisation that they have lost authority, their high place in our society, and even simple respect.

In the circumstances, attacks on judges today could hardly lead to a charge of contempt. Our splendid leader, Ludovic Kennedy, and all those who fought under his banner — it was nothing but justice that he was fighting for, remember — have pushed out the boundaries of what can be said about the judges: not only their behaviour on the bench, but their quality — why, in a century or two, humility itself may catch up with Lord Bridge.

There is a long way to go: the odious nature of Lord Lane's retirement bluntness suggests that many of them still don't know why they are distressed and even despised: which, incidentally, is a very dangerous state of affairs for all of us. For my part, I am heartily glad to think that we can now speak more freely of the judges without fear of the tipstaff, not because I want to abuse them but because such freedom is healthy, indeed essential, in our judicial system. As for Mr Justice Harman, if he shows sign of having me banged up in Pentonville for contempt, I shall seek sanctuary on the premises of *Legal Business*; if they can get away with it, surely I can.



...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Under K in the index of the *Encyclopaedia Cookbook* my mother gave me, it is nowhere to be seen, though I searched. Between kidneys and kumquats is where it should be, but all I can find is kneading. Yet it is a simple but essential part of cookery. Each time a saucepan comes to boil at just the right moment you can see it in the gas flame burning beneath. You can smell it when the turkey emerges from the oven, roasted to perfection. And, whenever the unfurnished television chef finishes off another immaculate shake of the pepper pot, a dash of it is shaken on too. It boils in every pot, it roasts in every oven, it dissolves in every sauce, it gets the whole recipe together. It is the one thing any cook needs. I need it. Where can you buy it? Where can you buy the knack?

The knack eludes me. I have a spatula, I have a colander and an egg-beater. I have a liquidiser, a sandwich-toaster, and for Christmas I received a microwave. I have the technology. But I haven't the knack, so I can't cook.

I have a tube of flexible sealant. I have wall tiles and tile-cutter. I have glue, a sponge for wiping it off, and a special spreader. I have a spirit level, tape measure, plastic spacers and a packet of the best quality white grout. But I haven't the knack, so I can't tile.

Without the knack you can't plaster. Without the knack, wall-

papering is impossible and joinery a waste of time. Try to tango without the knack and, even after 20 lessons, you will never impress.

The world of work is divided into two kinds of skill. There are skills got by effort: patient acquisition of know-how, step by step, fact by fact, until technique is assembled. Typing, tapestry, motor mechanics, medicine, ditch-digging, accountancy or law: accomplishments that come with study and practice, and, after sufficient study and practice, must come. Aptitude varies. Those with aptitude may end up 20, 30, 50 per cent better — maybe even twice as good — as those without. But to anyone who persists, bare adequacy, at least, will come.

And there are skills that also need the knack. Drawing, for instance. At school I studied how to draw pictures of humans and animals as carefully as my friend Charles; but, after five years, Charles's pencil drawing of a rabbit looked completely like a rabbit, while mine looked completely not like a rabbit. Truly Charles's work was succeeding within days. He had the knack. Mine never will. I only had the pencil.

Now, if having the knack — let us call it knackfulness — cannot be taught, is the contrary quality — knacklessness — unteachable too? I should like Delia Smith to try this, my recipe for fried eggs on toast...

You will need: a frying pan (with not quite enough oil in it); five eggs (two're doing two: assume 60 per cent casualties); two slices of bread (the crusts, inevitably, because your flatmate leaves those); and butter (straight from the fridge so it's too hard to spread).

Then: put the bread on to toast, making sure you do this well before you start frying the eggs, so it will be stone cold by the time the eggs are done. Next, crack the first egg into the pan, just before the oil is hot enough (a careful judgment, but the knackless never fail) so the egg runs all over the pan without setting. Scrape together as best you can and then crack the other egg, taking care (a) to break the yoke and (b) to get pieces of shell in it. Now, set the gas too high, then answer the telephone, so that when you return the egg is framed in critically carbon crust. Finally, butter the toast, breaking it in several pieces, scrape as much of the egg off the pan as you can, and serve, preferably with a cup of coffee made with milk that's slightly off but you can't bear to waste it.

I don't think Delia could do this if she tried. But I cannot do anything else.

"Where shall wisdom be found?" cried Job. God told him. So I looked up knack in Cruden's *Concordance*. Between kiss and kneel there was just a gap. Where, then, O Lord, shall the knack be found?

Umpteen lords a-leaping

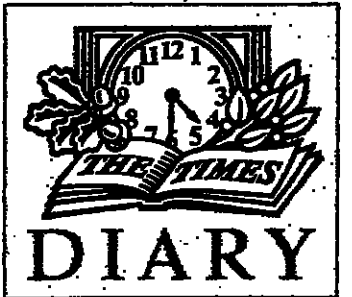
THE LARGE number of new peers waiting to take seats in the Lords has caused some embarrassment to Sir Colin Cole, the Garter King of Arms. The 11 newcomers named in Saturday's birthday honours list will find that there is a week-long queue to see Cole at the Royal College of Arms. He is still dealing with the 21 new titles arising from the previous week's dissolution list.

Many peers were in and out of the college in Queen Victoria Street last week to discuss their new titles. Most are anxious to take their seats before the summer recess, and extra days have already been added to the Lords timetable to accommodate them.

At the head of the queue was Margaret Thatcher, although ex-prime ministers take no precedence in the process. She was simply quickest off the mark, it seems, ensuring she will be the first to be introduced at the end of the month by Lords Boyd-Carpenter and Joseph.

Denis Howell, who will be introduced a week later, has already been disappointed about his title. He had hoped to become Lord Birmingham. "I was advised a whole city was too much for any one person", he says. Howell then toyed with the title of Lord Howell of Small Heath, the constituency he represented for many years, but will probably settle for Lord Howell of Loxells, where he was born. Denis Healey is another who has sought an early audience with Cole, although any hopes he entertained of becoming Lord Healey of Leeds will have been similarly rebuffed. He could now become Lord Healey of Alfriston, where he lives in Sussex.

Cecil Parkinson has had an eas-



ier ride with Cole as the first lord to hold such a surname. "That means that rather than Parkinson of Carnforth, the village where I was born, I will simply be known as Lord Parkinson," he says. "But it all takes time as there are so many of us. Each new member has to be presented with a hand-scrolled letter of patent signed by the Queen. These things cannot be rushed."

Merlyn Rees, the former Northern Ireland secretary, faces a more delicate decision than most over his first choice. Lord Merlyn. He has been advised it would be inappropriate because of erotic literary representations of the Arthurian seduction of Merlin by an enchantress.

Spotted in the Watford branch of Dillons over the weekend: last year's Charles and Diana — A Portrait of a Marriage, dramatically reduced from £12.95 to £4.99. Even that knockdown price may seem a bit steep to those who read it. Witness the author Brian Hoyle's conclusion: "Her Royal Highness has copied in an exemplary fashion with the rigid structure of life at court... Built up over the ten years of their marriage, this strong partnership is the perfect base for moving forward together to face the decades that lie ahead."

Higher calling

THE not inconsiderable foothills of the "strand two" talks in Northern Ireland should have presented more than sufficient challenge for Sir Patrick Mayhew, the new secretary of state. Not a bit of it. Mayhew has taken on and conquered one of the province's real peaks — its highest, Slieve Donard. He was accompanied by his wife Jean and, of course, the minders who must now dog his footsteps everywhere, even up the most tortuously winding mountain path.

Descending from the Mournes after his climb, Mayhew saw a sign outside a cottage offering duck eggs for sale. The woman who answered his knock on the door was polite but clearly suspicious of his appearance, which

"You're never alone with a strand two"



after his exertions, including a minor fall, had a touch of the desperado. "Are you here on holiday?" she demanded, as she handed him half a dozen eggs. "No, I work here," Mayhew replied. "Haven't I seen you on TV?" she asked. The secretary of state gave her a non-committal reply and left before she could summon the RUC.

● Terry Fields, the former Liverpool MP and Militant supporter, has applied for the post of secretary of the Parliamentary Labour Party. "I need the work and I have all the right attributes," says Fields, whom Labour spent much time and effort expelling because of his Militant links. Does he think Labour would have him back? "Well, the advice said the party was an equal opportunities employer and the application form also asked if I was prepared to join the Labour party. I answered yes, with pleasure."

The very model

ANNABELLA PEARSON-GEE, who enjoyed brief notoriety when she became the first model to appear in a full-page advertisement in *The Times* a quarter of a century ago, has changed her tune since then. Her scantily clad form caused a number of elderly readers to choke over their breakfasts, but the controversy meant she became for a time the leading cover girl in Europe. Over the weekend the diary chronicled on her, organising and singing in Haydn's *Creation* at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, in her capacity as fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Relief. "I decided I would rather sing for my supper than grin for it," she says.

● The next chairman of the Macmillan Cancer Relief, Colin Tarbat, heir to the Earl of Cromartie, is to cut the tape at a new museum in Ross-shire. There is only one problem. Janet, Countess of Cromartie, has banned him from using scissors and insisted the ceremonial ribbon be tied in a loose knot, requiring merely a tug to release. Her strictures are understandable. The chairman-to-be is four, a tenderage to be entering public life.



JOHN MAJOR'S NEW ULSTER

Yesterday's twist to the talks in Northern Ireland is remarkable. The parties have put forward incompatible proposals and remain far apart on an internal settlement, but nobody has stormed out as a result. All smile politely at the new Northern Ireland secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew. They appear now to have agreed to move on to all-Ireland talks, known as "strand two", even without an internal agreement. What is going on?

The answer is a new British policy. The policy is undeclared but has already been sensed by all the participants. Britain has had enough of nonsense. The prime minister now accepts the central analysis espoused by *The Times* that the parties to this wretched conflict will never give an inch towards a settlement as long as an outside agency, in this case the British government, is willing to pay the political and economic price for their intransigence.

Fifteen years of direct rule are widely regarded in Northern Ireland as having been, on balance, a good thing. The thesis is sustained only on the bleak ground that anything else would have been far bloodier. Yet direct rule has left intransigence more entrenched, local politics swamped by gang war and the level of violence barely contained by an ever more visible and costly security presence. The buying off of John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party, supposedly to "marginalise" the IRA, has not brought peace. Neighbourhoods are as divided as ever.

Nor has English-ordained local government been wise. Direct rule has driven communal leadership away from politics, leaving extremists to rule the petty baronies granted them by direct rule. Public money has been spent as nowhere else in the United Kingdom, bankrolling uncompetitive firms and breeding a total dependency culture. Even Northern Ireland's greatest asset, its small towns and lovely countryside, is being spoilt by hesitant or incompetent junior ministers reluctant to offend the gangs.

Margaret Thatcher had a low attention span in matters Irish. Whenever push came to shove, she lost interest. John Major is apparently of a different mind and has told Sir Patrick so. Direct rule must end. Full local government must be returned to Northern Ireland by hook or by crook. There must be no further provocation.

Strand one of the talks was to establish the basis for a new power-sharing constitution for the province. The parties were never likely to agree easily on this since each set of leaders was too frightened of their followers to make any concessions. The SDLP proposal was as unacceptable to the unionists as any unionist ascendancy was to the SDLP. Now the Dublin government is to be brought in to help to mediate or pressure, and there is a British proposal, ready but undisclosed, waiting for "strand three".

Two things are clearly new. The first is that a British government proposal for home rule for Northern Ireland appears to be imminent, and it will be imposed if it is not negotiated. There are dozens of constitutional patterns available. What matters is that Westminster should emphatically espouse one and insist on its implementation, preferably with Dublin's backing. The second new thing is that the conditions exist under which such a policy might work. Previously all involved would have walked out to the cheers of their supporters. Now public opinion in the province is as fed up as Downing Street.

At such moments bold rulers seize their chances. Mr Major, who has clearly indicated his support for an active stance by Sir Patrick, will need to involve himself closely in the process, as will Dublin. Now is the time for sticks rather than carrots. The great bluff, that any change in Northern Ireland is always for the worst, must be called. Direct rule of Northern Ireland from London is a stain on the United Kingdom, an expensive bloody failure. Nothing would stand more to Mr Major's credit than ending it.

GROWTH AND GREENERY

The Rio Earth summit should finally put paid to the illusion that global problems are best addressed by mega-conferences on themes so all-embracing as "environment and development". The justification for this ambitious undertaking was that only a global summit could cajole politicians into committing themselves to factor into each economic decision the environmental costs to this and to succeeding generations. But Rio, heavily over-sold by its United Nations organisers, attempted too much, and in the wrong way. Its 400-page action plan is a ragbag which conflates the marginally desirable with the vital, a document so heavily politicised that it barely nods to the obstacle rapid population growth presents to protecting the environment in some of the poorest countries.

Governments have indeed endorsed the principle of "green growth" — that our future prosperity depends on sound environmental management now. But what most politicians will take away from Rio is the conviction that environmental diplomacy is a rerun of the old confrontations in the United Nations about economic backwardness and official aid targets. Much of the past fortnight has been spent rehearsing theories of development to which few governments individually subscribe, and in reviving the discredited Third World *canard* that all the world's ills are due to the West's failure to allocate a fixed proportion of its wealth to Third World exchequers.

This resurrection of North-South quarrels has raised political tempers and, worse, distorted the view of the environmental bargain to be had. Protecting the environment is not a favour the poor do the rich, in return for cash. The poor suffer most already from advancing deserts, polluted water, degraded farmland and industrial waste; they will have fewer defences against the effects of global warming. The developing world has a strong case in seeking Western cash and technology to avoid the worst environmental pitfalls of economic growth: the

West has an obvious interest in helping the poor avoid the mistakes it once made. The poor are rich in the biological diversity the whole world needs to conserve.

But handouts are not the whole game. Many of the most sensible steps Third World countries could take for the environment would actually save them money. Cutting subsidies for energy, logging or irrigation would profit their exchequers even before counting the green gain. And in the accounting that has to be central to reconciling growth with greenery, all countries have responsibilities as well as rights. Obvious as this may seem, it was little in evidence at Rio. The West has a duty to set exemplary standards. But there again, Rio did little to advance its proclaimed goals by consistently pillorying the United States.

Provided that the negative lessons of Rio are absorbed, the summit's legacy could still be positive. An impressive number of countries have already signed two conventions, on climate change and biodiversity. Both are ill-drafted compromises, weak on conservation and prey to interpretation as pledges of huge financial transfers from the West which will not be forthcoming. But without a summit deadline, these two conventions might have taken many more years to negotiate. The next target must be to convert Rio's disappointingly weak statement of principles on the world's forests into another convention.

The British government, which rightly resisted adding to the UN's environmental bureaucracy, supported the creation of a small UN commission on sustainable development to which governments and international agencies are invited to report. Such regular follow-up could do much to translate Rio's vague promises into national policy. The quarrelling at Rio has not entirely cancelled out the benefit of concentrating politicians' minds on a greener world. Constant monitoring is the way to see that they do not forget why they agreed to be there in the first place.

SPEND TO SAVE

Any scheme that turns a chore into an adventure deserves to be a winner. Taking the family car to be serviced evinces an inner groan of tedium the moment the odometer reaches 40,000 miles. By contrast the prospect of a quick trip across the Channel immediately sets the gastronomic imagination racing, and prompts a lingering calculation of how many bottles of the best appellation contrôle wine you can bring back without breaking the car springs or the tolerance of the customs officers. The garages and hypermarkets of Boulogne are now cashing in handsomely on a wheeze that combines the routine car service with a gourmet lunch and a tour of the shops at almost no extra cost.

British labour costs being what they are, virtually any French garage can do the job for less. And, with substantial savings on brie, foie gras, Bordeaux and other necessities of life, a really heavy day's shopping can more than make up for the return ferry fare. There are, of course, disadvantages, as defensive British garage dealers are quick to point out. If a strange clunking begins on the steep hill up from Dover harbour, it is prohibitively expensive to re-embark on the ferry and give the negligent mechanic a piece of mind. There is also the problem of language. Few Britons are great linguists: any manual will provide translation for *les jéris* and *les phares*. But what about "the funny noise somewhere in the engine"? Brave attempts such as "Je pense que mon grand fin est cassé" are at best likely to evince only a bewildered Gallic shrug.

The principle, however, of combining business with pleasure, drudgery with fun, is a sound and long-established one. Why is it that medical conferences are more often held in Edinburgh than in Middlesex? Or that the American Bar Association finds it essential to meet in the Bahamas or on some palm-covered Caribbean island? Or that more business contracts are brokered in fine Italian restaurants than over boardroom tables?

Part of the fun is the casuistry with which such decisions are justified. How many wives have heard the apology "Of course I don't really want to go to Tenerife, it's just that the firm found it much cheaper to hold the meeting there"? Advertisers have developed a whole language of specious justification for indulgence. Spending money during the sales is saving money, ergo, spending at a shop that keeps its prices down is saving — so that most American commercials now exhort you to "Come along in and save".

The cross-Channel servicing caper depends heavily on this logic. A lot must be spent on meals, wine and shopping to recoup the extra travel expense; otherwise simply pay the local garage a little more and give your car the service of a lifetime. Once accepted, this argument opens vistas of pleasure in all manner of unpromising fields. Why spend money at the fishmonger's when you could make a frugal trip to Scotland and catch enough fish to last to winter? Car servicing abroad, like car ownership itself, prompts a sophistry sorely needed in the dull days of recession.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Making the best and the worst of Maastricht debacle

From the Chairman of the Selsdon Group

Sir, To clarify debate, it is not time to differentiate between Euro-sceptics and anti-Europeans?

Anti-Europeans are those who wish Britain had never gone into the Common Market and wish us to withdraw from the European Community. They cheer the Danes because they hope this means the end of the Community.

The Euro-sceptic wishes to see a completed single market before taking any further steps. It may well be that the peoples of Europe wish to move forward, following the success of the single market. We cheer the Danes because we hope this will force politicians to move forward with the people rather than imposing grandiose solutions upon them.

For ease of reference it can be stated that, by and large, those Conservative MPs who voted against the party on Maastricht are in the first camp. Those who voted for the government, but who subsequently signed the "controversial" early day motion, are representative of a much larger group in the latter. Euro-federalists in the party are an even smaller group than the anti-Europeans.

The difference is crucial to a true understanding of what is happening in the Conservative party as it seeks to grapple with the consequences of the Danish vote on Maastricht.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MAYS, Chairman,
The Selsdon Group,
170 Sloane Street, SW1,
June 12.

From Mr Ian Taylor, MP for Esher (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article of June 11, "Death of Maastricht", suffers from the perversity of which you accuse those of us who are positive about the Maastricht arrangements.

You make the unfounded assertion that it is those of us who are pro-Maastricht who "stand in the way of concerted action to achieve the single market next year, to reform farm policy, to free world trade under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to attack cartels and protection".

All of these are worthy objectives, but in reality their achievement depends upon efforts through the very institutions which you criticise.

European bank

From Mr James A. Scott

Sir, Mr Michael Brandon (letter, June 10) advances a powerful political case for Edinburgh as the location for the European Central Bank. Even more telling is the argument that Edinburgh's bid offers the best prospect of advantage to the United Kingdom.

It is hard to credit that the Community's leaders will be able to reach agreement in favour of any of the financial centres in Europe which compete for pre-eminence in global capital markets. Seen in that light, Edinburgh's bid is a bid for Britain, not simply for Scotland.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES SCOTT
(Executive Director),
Scottish Financial Enterprise,
91 George Street, Edinburgh.

Fine lines of time

From Mr Alan Cleave

Sir, W. S. Gilbert's line about telling a woman's age does not come from *Ruddigore* (Nicholas Watt's report on anti-age creams, June 9), but from *Princess Ida*.

King Gama informs us that "To everybody's prejudice I know a thing or two: I can tell a woman's age in half a minute — and I do".

Today, on the strength of his first admission, Gama might make an ideal tabloid journalist.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN CLEAVE,
91 Marvels Lane,
Grove Park, SE12,
June 9.

From Mr Keith Pledst

Sir, May I remind your readers that Frank Curnutt sang of the prunes' wrinkles a generation before Tom Lehrer (leading article, June 9). Frank is probably best recalled for the ballad immortalising the famous duel between the champions of the Shah and Czar — Abdul the Bulbul Amer and Ivan Skovinsky Skovar — which ended, as do so many personal battles, between young and old alike, in a no-win situation.

Yours etc.,
KEITH PLEDST,
Nastend Court,
Nr Stonehouse, Gloucestershire,
June 10.

Council contracts

From Councillor Eric Ollerenshaw

Sir, I was interested in the comments by your local government correspondent ("Council contracts staying in-house", report, June 10) that 83 per cent of contracts by local authorities have been awarded in-house, and the chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities public works committee that "councils' own direct services organisations... have fought hard and fairly to win".

In Hackney it still remains the policy of the ruling Labour party that the council's own workforce must be given every assistance in winning contracts. On June 8, at a meeting of

At the time of the Single European Act, the British government understood the need for a strong Commission and European Court of Justice if the single market programme were to be pushed through the protectionist instincts of several Community countries.

There is still work to be done, but what was established at Maastricht was that the Community institutions would be subject to more scrutiny and accountability and their actions reviewed by the Court of Auditors.

The European Court of Justice would also be given teeth to fine those countries that do not play by the rules. These gains, combined with the greater emphasis on the role of the national governments, would be positive amendments to the existing treaties of Rome and are quite rightly gains which the government wishes to preserve.

It should also not go unnoticed that the enlargement of the Community, which is essential, is more likely to be slowed down by unravelling the Maastricht agreement than by proceeding on the basis of it.

Yours faithfully,
IAN TAYLOR,
House of Commons.

From Mr Michael J. Gordon

Sir, Germany wants the Maastricht treaty to protect themselves from their past. The French want it for their future security. The Italians want it because they find it difficult to govern themselves. Portugal, Greece and Ireland want it for the money they expect to receive. Belgium and Luxembourg want it because they are too small to succeed on their own. The UK wants it because of the exclusions we have negotiated. Denmark doesn't want it.

This is surely not the substance of a meaningful treaty. The one thing we all want, and the thing we have all voted for, is a single market which allows fair competition and free trade. Nothing more, nothing less. And after some years of operating a single market, we will develop naturally the relationships and alliances that are currently being unhappily and prematurely forced on us.

As a committed Conservative I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. GORDON,
Rissington Mill,
Little Rissington, Gloucestershire,
June 11.

From Mr R. D. A. Wills

Sir, There are some 500 different banks represented in the City of London and about 75 in Edinburgh. What justification does this give for splitting the activities of the European Central Bank between the two cities, as proposed by Mr Brandon?

It would surely be better to locate the ECB in Frankfurt where there are over 200 banks, or even in Paris where there are somewhat fewer.

Let the street fighters of Edinburgh muster under Mr Brandon's leadership. All they can achieve is to make sure that the ECB is based outside the UK.

Yours very truly,
RICHARD WILLS,
Travers Smith & Braithwaite & Co.,
(Solicitors),
10 Snow Hill, EC1,
June 10.

Cleaner power

From Mr David Porter

Sir, In two years, the privatised electricity industry has shaken off most of the bad habits which it learned under decades of central planning and government intervention.

Now government is telling the industry not to build any more clean, efficient, gas-fired stations ("Heseltine to block 'greener' power stations", *Business*, June 1). These are the very stations which private companies know will produce competitively-priced electricity. They offer valuable "Rio" benefits too. This is not the first sign that the government has forgotten its commitment to cleaner electricity production. For example, there has been no announcement of a non-fossil fuel obligation for renewable energy this year.

But your report suggests that Mr Heseltine is also turning his back on competition. Modern gas-fired power stations will compete with the coal burners. If Mr Heseltine bans them, one thing is certain: in the long run, electricity users will pay and those with less bargaining power will probably pay most. The domestic consumer should be warned.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PORTER
(Chief Executive),
Association of Independent
Electricity Producers,
Herodsfoot, Liskeard, Cornwall.

the council's housing development sub-committee which I attended, a building repairs contract to the tune of £1 million-plus was awarded solely on the chairman's authority to our own workforce, with no competitive tendering.

At the same time the council has a full officer team working to ensure tender documents are constructed in such a way that few private contractors even bother to apply for the documents, let alone fill them in and compete: they know full well they

cannot possibly meet the terms. I do not wish to decry all that has been achieved from the government's introduction of competitive tendering, which has certainly opened up council workforces to much greater economic scrutiny. But if local charge payers are ever to get real value-for-money services then the ministerial review of anti-competitive practices must introduce even tighter guidelines.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC OLLERENSHAW
(Deputy leader,
Conservative opposition),
London Borough of Hackney,
Members' Room,
Town Hall, Mare Street, E8.

From Mr Leolin Price, QC

Sir, In his letter today, defending the Maastricht treaty, Sir Nicholas Henderson suggests that it contains provisions reducing the central government function of the Community, and, as against the Community, strengthening the powers of member states. His suggestion must be based on the "principle of subsidiarity" embodied in the new article 3b which Maastricht proposes to insert into the Treaty of Rome.

But article 3b, in the slovenly imprecision of its language, offers no support at all for that beguiling suggestion. It does not provide machinery which will, or can, fetter or reverse the centralising tendency of the Community's pre-Maastricht powers.

The reality of the treaty is that it proposes a massive new transfer of additional governmental power from member states to the Community; and the meaningless "principle of subsidiarity" is a propagandist device to persuade the ill-informed to give their support to unacceptably centralist proposals.

Yours truly,
LEOLIN PRICE,
10 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
June 11.

From Lord Mackenzie-Stuart

Sir, Mr Charles Wide (letter, June 11) is quite correct in saying that the interpretation of subsidiarity is a political issue and not one for the Court of Justice of the European Communities. Maastricht, however, places that responsibility squarely on its shoulders.

Worse, may I invite your readers to study the definition of subsidiarity contained in the treaty? It is too long to quote here, but it is a rich and prime example of gobbledy-gook embracing simultaneously two opposed concepts of subsidiarity. To regard the chosen formula as a constitutional safeguard shows great optimism.

Should Maastricht go ahead, the court's task is an unenviable one.

Yours faithfully,
MACKENZIE-STUART
(President, European Court
of Justice, 1984-8),
Le Garidel, Gravières,
07140 Les Vans, France,
June 12.

France's other face

From Mrs Janet R. Eaton

Sir, France is a beautiful country, a land of diverse scenery, wonderful food and wine, and a people whose Gallic flavours are always obvious. As a family we holiday there every year and are enchanted each time.

However, be warned. We have recently returned from visiting friends whose love affair with all things French ended with them succumbing to a permanent residence in Gascony.

Sadly, the friendly faces of summer turn from delight at relieving you of your francs for the (admittedly) cheap price of a home in the region, to taciturnity to the point of obstruction when summer turns to winter and you are still in residence.

Despite sending their children to village schools, employing local builders and gardeners to modernise their property, improving their French at every opportunity and living *la vie française* at all times, this seems to be one region where nothing you can do will ever make you in the least welcome. Our friends home is now up for sale and they plan to return to England, poorer and wiser for the experience.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. EATON,
28 Castle Drive, Kemsing,
Sevenoaks, Kent,
June 4.

Wollstonecraft grave

From Miss S. A. Haworth

Sir, The derelict condition of the grave of Mary Wollstonecraft in St Pancras, London, reported in the article on her (*Life & Times*, June 3), has a simple explanation, nothing to do with any neglect of her writings. She is not buried in it and has not been for 140 years.

In the churchyard of St Peter's, Bournemouth, is a plain but handsome family tomb, in good repair. Its inscription records the burial there of Mary Shelley, her son and his wife, and of Mary's parents, William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin, whose remains, it says, "were removed hither from the church yard of St Pancras, London, AD 1851".

Yours faithfully,
SALLY HAWORTH,
28 Dereham Way,
Branksome, Poole, Dorset.

LSE and future of County Hall

From Dr Arthur Combs and others

Sir, As alumni, teaching staff, students and associates of the London School of Economics, we write to express our continuing support for the school's bid to move to County Hall, despite the apparent support by the government for its conversion by Japanese developers into an hotel, conference centre and shops (parliamentary report, June 9).

Throughout its history, the LSE has educated business leaders, politicians, civil servants, diplomats and scholars from all parts of the world. This export of scholarship and loyal alumni is of incalculable economic and political value, not only to the school, but to Britain as well.

A current example of this value can be found in Eastern Europe, where managers and bureaucrats of the emerging market economies have turned to the LSE as a leading source of training and technical assistance. The school's role in the development of these new economies bodes well for Britain's future business, economic and political relations in the region.

In its present, cramped quarters, the LSE cannot render the services it might and should. County Hall's location and architecture would complement the school's academic reputation, and more importantly, would allow it to expand to meet the growing international demand for its services.

Proximity to Parliament would serve both institutions, increasing the school's already notable ability to draw high-calibre faculty and students, and putting an extensive social science library at the disposal and the doorstep of Parliament. In County Hall, the LSE could render maximum service to its students, its teaching staff, and its country.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR COMBS,
MICHAEL BANKS,
ALEX CAIRNCROSS,
HIRSHFIELD OF HOLBORN,
AUBREY JONES,
London School of Economics
and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC1,
June 3.

Car registrations

From Mr Hugh Cownie

Sir, Mr Craig Sams (letter, June 5) is wrong when he says that British motor manufacturers lobbied for the introduction of later registration.

Year identification letters were introduced by government for its own reasons. The letter originally changed on January 1, reinforcing the natural attraction of buying a new car in the first quarter of a year.

Manufacturers wished to avoid the damage of additional bunching of demand — and therefore of production — in the first half of a year. They therefore asked for the letter to be changed in the second half, when demand was seasonally weak.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH COWNIE
(Economic adviser,
Society of Motor Manufacturers
and Traders, 1966-86),
Keelson Lodge,
Beckenham Place Park,
Beckenham, Kent,
June 5.

Price of a presidency

From Mr Maurice Cooke

Sir, The entry of a billionaire into the US presidential stakes takes one mind back to a passage in Gibbon's account of the aftermath of the murder of Pertinax (AD 193): The Praetorians, apprehensive that, in [a] private contract, they should not obtain a just price for so valuable a commodity, ran out upon the ramparts; and, with a loud voice, proclaimed that the Roman world was to be disposed of to the best bidder by public auction. This infamous offer... reached at length the ears of Didius Julianus, a wealthy senator, who... hastened to the Praetorian camp [bid 6250 drachms to each soldier, and] was declared emperor.

Is some adaptation of this how the highest secular office in the world is now to be filled?

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE COOKE,
8 Menai View Terrace,
Bangor, Gwynedd,
June 10.

Measure for measure

From Mr James Badenoch, QC

Sir, I can report that the Fijians were ahead even of the Irish (Professor Joyce's letter, June 9) in the matter of logical accommodation to new-fangled weights and measures.

As an observer at a court case in Suva in 1979, some time after Fiji had "gone metric", I heard the defendant driver testify that he had first seen the plaintiff pedestrian when she was about a chain away from his bus. He was then asked his speed. "Less than 30" he replied. "Would that be miles or kilometres?" asked his counsel. When he acknowledged with pride that he had indeed on that day been driving in kilometres he was loudly applauded by the gallery, who clearly knew a scholar and a pioneer when they saw one.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BADENOCH,
1 Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4,
June 9.

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British Coal meets stiff opposition to distribution deal

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EFFORTS by British Coal Corporation to restructure its coal distribution activities before privatisation have run into stiff opposition from coal traders and employee shareholders.

British Coal has failed to secure a recommendation from the board of its subsidiary, British Fuels Group (BFG), for its bid to buy out the 50 per cent of shares held by employees and leading City institutions. British Coal wants to merge BFG, Britain's biggest coal distributor, with its wholly-owned National Fuel Distributors to create a business with annual sales of almost £650 million. But coal

trade representatives have lobbied Tim Eggar, the energy minister, the Office of Fair Trading and the European Commission in an as-yet unsuccessful effort to get the plan blocked.

They are horrified at the prospective use of public money to create a business which would dominate coal wholesaling in mainland Britain.

Peter Drew, the general secretary of the Chamber of Coal Traders, which represents Britain's 3,300 coal merchants, said: "We have grave misgivings." Urging Mr Eggar to halt the deal at a meeting last Friday, Mr Drew said that the merged group would control 50 per cent of domestic coal wholesaling and 70 per cent of industrial sales.

British Coal is anxious to rationalise its distribution interests before the corporation is sold in what Lord Parkinson, the former energy secretary, dubbed the "ultimate privatisation." The corporation is also keen to secure full control of a business which sells 3 million tonnes of its output every year, and achieve the economies from a merger.

But the board's offer for the outstanding shares has failed to win over BFG's 700 employee shareholders, who speak for 16 per cent of the equity. Many feel they are being sold short; some also fear for their jobs.

BFG, based in Harrogate, West Yorkshire, was the subject of a little-reported leveraged buyout in December 1988. The buyout was designed to allow AAH and Redland to exit the business and it left half the shares in the hands of British Coal, 34 per cent with City institutions headed by Kleinwort Benson

and Bankers Trust, and the remainder with employees. British Coal had an option to acquire the 50 per cent of the business it did not own at 333p a share. Many employees bought them for 100p, believing the option underpinned the price. But British Coal, through Hobart Investments, its subsidiary, has made a take it or leave it offer at 175p a share. The offer values the group at £10 million.

Despite repeated meetings to discuss the offer, the BFG board, which met again on Saturday, has been unable to decide whether to recommend acceptance or rejection of the offer, which closes on June 20.

David Port, BFG's chief executive, said there had been "some disappointment at the level of the offer" among employees. He declined to say why the board had been unable to reach a decision on British Coal's proposals. However, the company could realise economies from a merger with National Fuel Distributors, he said.

A British Coal spokesman said the Corporation believed its terms were fair. When the 333p option was drawn up, the business had looked "much more sure-footed and viable," he said. It had since suffered from a combination of mild winters, the recession, and a long-term decline in coal demand from households.

BFG last year declared a pre-tax loss of £400,000, despite achieving an operating profit of £13.8 million. It has a workforce of 2,000. National Fuel Distributors, which has annual sales of £161 million and an operating profit of £5.5 million, employs 400 people.

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Dream team: Mark Bunce, left, with Christina Challinor and John Shannon

Country Casuals to float

By JON ASHWORTH

A TRIO of former Laura Ashley managers hope to see a three-year dream come true this week with the stock market listing of Country Casuals, the women's fashion retailer.

Morgan Grenfell, sponsor to the issue, hopes to announce a successful placing of shares on Wednesday. This will be welcomed by John Shannon, chairman of Country Casuals, Mark Bunce, finance and strategy director, and Christina Challinor, marketing and merchandising director, who have battled through the recession to bring the company to the market.

All three worked at Laura Ashley in the 1980s. They teamed up in March 1989 to buy Country Casuals from Costa Virella via a management buy-in and set about shedding the fashion chain's "frumpy" image. It now sells "youngster" style clothes aimed at women aged 30 to 50 through 60 High Street shops and 95 store concessions.

Some institutions are puzzled about the directors' relationship with Oasis, a women's fashion chain which went into receivership in January 1991. Two months later, Country Casuals paid £1 million in cash and loan stock for 50 per cent of Oasis with the idea of absorbing it before a flotation. But it has decided to cut its stake. Country Casuals will continue to hold 40 per cent of Oasis together with the handful of institutions which supported the buy-in. Mr Bunce said Oasis' trading record was too short for stock market needs. "There's no hiding of figures," he said.

The company reported pre-tax profits of £2 million in the year to January 25 (£802,000) on £36 million turnover. Dealings start on June 25.

Pay rises in service industries slow

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PAY rises in Britain's service industries averaged only 4.4 per cent in the first half of this year, which brought them down into line with wage deals in manufacturing, according to provisional data from the Confederation of British Industry.

The CBI pay databank figures should help dispel lingering concern about the relative unresponsiveness of the service sector pay to recession. Average settlements are at their lowest since the CBI began the service sector series in 1983. Delayed recovery and rising unemployment appear to have finally started to contain pay pressure across the economy, embracing the service sector which escaped previous recessions comparatively unscathed.

In the second half of 1991, service industry pay settlements were still averaging 6 per cent after 7.1 per cent in the first half. Manufacturing deals had slowed to an average 5.1 per cent, decelerating further to 4.2 per cent by the final quarter. The estimate for the first quarter, the latest period available for manufacturing pay, shows a slight pickup to 4.3 per cent.

The slowdown in service sector pay growth is welcome news for the government, which last week warmly welcomed as "excellent news" a sharp slowdown in underlying retail prices. Excluding mortgage interest payments, annual inflation dropped from 5.7 per cent in April to 5.3 per cent in May, the lowest rate since December 1988.

Sir John Banham, the outgoing CBI director general, said: "The new realism about pay and performance across the private sector as a whole illustrated by these figures is

clearly not a flash in the pan." He said settlements in manufacturing had averaged well below 5 per cent for three consecutive quarters, while productivity had increased by more than 3 per cent. Wage developments now compared more favourably with our overseas competitors, Sir John said. He added it was vital the unit labour cost achievement of the private sector should continue and the public sector, too, should match pay to performance.

Since last summer about 15 per cent of manufacturing settlements were at or below 2.5 per cent; about 34 per cent between 2.5 and 4.5 per cent; 29 per cent between 4.5 per cent and 5.5 per cent; and the remainder above 5.5 per cent.

An agreement finalised at Severn Trent Water provides for a 4 per cent minimum pay rise for its workforce of more than 3,000, but gives larger awards to most workers under a new grade structure. The deal links 5 per cent of salaries to quality standards in the first year. On Thursday, official data on average earnings across the whole economy are expected to show the annual underlying rise slowing to 7.25 per cent in April from 7.5 per cent in March.

Labour market figures on Thursday are forecast to show a 30,000 rise in the number of unemployed in May, pushing the total out of work above 2.7 million for the first time in more than four years. In London, the jobless total is expected to hit its highest since current records started in 1971. Unemployment, which will continue to worsen even after recovery is established, is expected to rise throughout this year and well into 1993.

SOUTH AFRICAN PAPER

South African paper group raises £167m

SAPPI, South Africa's biggest paper and pulp group, will announce today a successful placing of 21.5 million new ordinary shares in Europe and at home to pay for the purchase of Hannover Papier, of Germany. Sappi said it is the first South African company to make a successful Euro-equity placing without a discount.

The R946 million (£167 million) issue has been comfortably oversubscribed, the company said. Warburg Securities, the London lead manager, has allocated the maximum additional 15 per cent of the issue to investors, which it may buy back to stabilise the share price for a month. The placing of 21.5 million shares at R44 included 2.5 million issued to Commerzbank, whose 10 per cent interest in Hannover Papier Sappi is buying.

Ok Tedi mine charge

THE premier of Papua New Guinea's Western Province has been released on bail after being arrested and charged in connection with his attempts to close the Ok Tedi copper-gold mine, police said yesterday. Isidore Kausang has been leading a campaign to close the mine to press the national government to renegotiate environmental and development agreements with his province. The project is operated by The Broken Hill Proprietary Company. (Reuters)

Indian bank move

ASSETS of three bank officials in India, allegedly involved in a 30 billion rupee (£550 million) fraud, have been frozen. The finance ministry said properties of the three officials of the State Bank of India (SBI), including deputy managing director C. L. Khemani, had been "attached". The three are among ten arrested in the country's worst financial scandal. Prosecutors allege that banks fed money into the Bombay Stock Exchange through brokers.

National Savings rise

GROSS sales of National Savings products in May were boosted by the 37th issue of fixed interest certificates launched on May 13. These contributed £186 million to the total of £840 million. The 36th issue, paying 8.5 per cent, were withdrawn on May 2. But £40 million worth were sold during the day and a half they were available in May. Sales of index-linked certificates, at £211 million, were the highest since July 1990. Income bonds attracted £172 million.

Listing for Kenwood

KENWOOD Appliances, the kettles to steam irons home appliances group, will come to the stock market on Wednesday by way of a placing and public offer by Schroders, the merchant bank. The company is best known for its Kenwood Chef mixer. Anglian Group, Britain's biggest retail double glazing products company, and Taunton Cider, the cider maker and distributor, publish their pathfinder prospectus tomorrow.

Diners nears deal

DINERS Club, the charge card group owned by Citicorp, is poised to sign up Austrian Airlines as a card issuer, a year after British Airways agreed to the BA/Diners card. Diners has taken a lead in the airline card market and hopes to win KLM and Lufthansa as partners. This year, Diners has signed up Sabena as an issuer. Diners says that spending on the BA/Diners card has reached £2 billion, 50 per cent higher than the corporate Diners and AirPlus cards it replaced.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Securities take off with bonds based on aircraft leases

ASSET securitisation has become an increasingly familiar feature of the global capital markets in recent years. Usually it involves a package of financial assets, mortgages, say, being bundled together and used as security for a loan from investors, usually in the form of bonds.

In order to strengthen the underlying security provided by the assets, various credit enhancement measures are usually thrown into the package. These allow the bonds to gain the credit rating needed to attract institutional investors. The concept works well where the assets being securitised have the same or very similar terms, but becomes far more complex where they vary.

Mortgages and car loans, for example, are effectively commodity products for which the terms do not alter a great deal. For much bigger ticket items, such as a lease for a commercial jet aircraft, the terms are far more likely to be tailored-made for the borrower and the lenders concerned, and, therefore, far more difficult to securitise. But with an estimated \$450 billion of finance needed to fund new aircraft purchases by the end of the decade, there is clearly a growing market for new methods of aircraft financing.

Citibank, which last week announced what it claims is the world's first aircraft lease securitisation, believes that this method will become increasingly popular. Citibank's deal, which took more than a year to develop, involves a securitisation of 14 leases for commercial jet aircraft. The lessees are a range of non-

American carriers, including British Midland, Air Jamaica, Korean Airlines and Portugalia. The aircraft, which include Boeing, Airbus and McDonnell Douglas jets, are on leases ranging from five to ten years and have an average age of less than four years.

A special purpose vehicle, ALPS 92-1, will acquire the leases from GPA, the lessor, using them as security for five classes of capital. Each class is carefully designed to appeal to a particular group of institutions after intensive market research among American, European and Asian investors. There are in the form of AA rated, senior debt bonds, each with different interest rate and repayment terms. Two are unrated, a \$30.4 million subordinated debt bond, and at the bottom of the security hierarchy, a \$104 million slab of quasi-equity.

The total value of the capital is \$521 million. The funds will be used by GPA to purchase further aircraft for its leasing activities. Various measures have been built into the structure of the bonds to protect investors against default by the lessees or a sharp fall in the value of the assets. These are \$8 million worth of security guarantees taken out by the lessees, a \$71.8 million loan provided by Citibank and Credit Lyonnais, and a \$15.5 million escrow account set up by GPA.

The GPA/Citibank deal is likely to be imitated; it may also herald a further step forward in the ever more sophisticated technology of asset securitisation.

JONATHAN PRYNN

Underwriter earns more than £1m

By JONATHAN PRYNN

STEPHEN Merrett, one of the best known and most controversial underwriters in the Lloyd's insurance market, received more than £1.1 million in salary, profit commission and dividends during the 15 months to the end of last year.

The figure, which was disclosed in Merrett's syndicate accounts for the 1989 underwriting year and the Merrett Holdings plc accounts for the year to end-September, shows that top underwriters still command high levels of remuneration, despite the turmoil in the market. Last week, it was disclosed that Ian Agnew, another Lloyd's heavyweight, was paid £656,000 last year.

Many underwriters have lost their jobs over the past two years as the savage downturn in the world insurance cycle has taken its toll of syndicates. The generous rewards still earned by the underwriting elite at Lloyd's are predictably also proving highly provocative to the many thousands of external names that have suffered huge losses.

Mr Merrett's income during the 15-month period comprised:

□ The £247,536 he was paid for his role as chairman of Merrett Holdings, a managing agency, during the year to end-September. This was a reduction from the £280,450 he received the previous year. Merrett Holdings' pre-tax profits fell from £6.96 million to £3.21 million.

□ Salary and profit commission of £225,000 he earned as the active underwriter of syn-



Merrett: criticised

£170,000 underwriting line on his syndicate 417/418, which was left open in 1985 because of heavy asbestos and pollution claims.

To the present date, Mr Merrett's total loss for the 1985 year has been more than £132,000, with a £52,700 loss for last year alone. However, this loss is likely to have been offset by profits on other syndicates and in other years. Mr Merrett has this year increased his line on the syndicate from £393,000 to £1 million.

PENNY SHARES

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Following the DIVIDEND DECLARATION by Ford Motor Company (U.S.) on 9 April 1992 NOTICE is now given that the following DISTRIBUTION will become payable on or after 16 March 1992.

Gross Distribution per unit	2-0000 Cents
Less 15% USA Withholding Tax	0-3000 Cents
	1-7000 Cents
Converted at \$1.8375	£0.0025170

Claims should be lodged with the DEPOSITARY: National Westminster Bank PLC, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescott Street, London, E1 6BB on special forms obtainable from that Office.

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should mark payment of the dividend in the appropriate square on the reverse of the certificate.

All other claimants must complete the special form and present this at the above address together with the certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

Dated 15 June 1992

SMALLER COMPANIES

Time Products worth watching again

A SURGE in Time Products' shares came to a sudden halt with the disclosure of a 17 per cent slump in annual pre-tax profits last month. After recovering from 132p to 184p between January and May, the shares have come back to 177p. Now the froth has been skimmed, they are worth another look.

The market, disappointed by the decline in profits from £9.37 million before tax to £7.62 million, ignored a confident trading statement from Marcus Margulies, managing director, who spoke of improved demand at the top end of the watch market, which accounts for about half of Time's sales.

Despite a 20 per cent decline in

earnings to 9.74p a share, the total dividend edged up 3 per cent to 7.5p, reflecting the company's cautious optimism.

The closure of Remex, a Hong Kong subsidiary, brought an extraordinary cost of £4.9 million but removed a business that was no longer competitive. The cash pile shrank from £26 million to £18 million after the acquisition of Apollo Watch Products for £1.52 million.

Apollo, which makes watch straps, had £7.6 million of borrowings and owed £1.3 million in deferred payments. In the six months before the takeover, the company lost £536,000. But after the elimination of borrowings and streamlining of adminis-

tration, it covered the interest cost of its acquisition.

Alan Matthews, an analyst at Beeson Gregory, forecasts profits of £9 million before tax this year, rising to £10.2 million in the following 12 months. His forecast does not take into account an upturn in the core business but includes the benefit of closing Remex and an increased contribution from Apollo.

Time Products has been prudently managed through the recession and, for once, the promise that the company is poised to benefit from the economic upturn rings true.

MARTIN BARROW

Share price boom back on hold

That euphoric stock market get up and go, which lifted share prices 15 per cent in the month after the election, finally got up and left this month. The recent fall of 5 per cent has little to do with the EC's troubles and everything to do with a domestic recovery that has still failed to materialise in more than fleeting glimpses. The general wisdom was that economic recovery was being held back only by lack of consumer and business confidence, which would return when political uncertainty was removed. Hardly had the votes been counted than the CBI and its members dutifully displayed astonishing and, they hoped, self-fulfilling optimism. Consumers seemed to respond, but little seems yet to be happening as a result.

Meanwhile, time is ticking away. Norman Lamont's Budget forecast of 1 per cent growth this year is dead and even the Treasury's new private forecast of 0.5 per cent requires a spiky upturn in the second half. The recovery will come but is already nearly a year behind Mr Lamont's schedule. The rise in share prices has anticipated events too early, just as in the late summer of 1991, after which prices relapsed by an average 12.5 per cent in four months.

No such drastic correction is called for now, since the delay carries no such potential electoral consequences. Stockbrokers' analysts are, however, reviewing profit forecasts for all companies sensitive to the economy and downgrading many of them, including last week Rank Organisation, Lucas, Sears and Associated British Ports. Company chairmen, most recently at Tarmac, British Aerospace and, worst though not recession-related, at Fisons, are queuing to explain that prospects remain bleak. Companies that hoped to maintain unearned or thinly covered dividends through the cyclical trough, such as Pilkington and Taylor Woodrow, are finding that the recession has gone on so long that this policy is no longer tenable. Predictions of steadily rising share prices were built on recovery-boosted earnings growth and a downturn in interest rates, both stalled in the short-term.

The extra damage inflicted on company finances by the delay in recovery suggests that share price growth may not only be delayed for several months but also be more muted when it resumes.

Sir Roy's big idea

The knighthood awarded to Roy Watts, chairman of Thames Water, will be greeted with more than merely friendly pleasure by his colleagues and rivals in the water industry and the rest of the privatised utility sector. Perhaps they are not, after all, to be considered *ex officio* public enemies by the government, whose policy they have done so much to make a success. Sir Roy had a distinguished, if sometimes thankless career in the public sector long before he joined Thames, running British European Airways and later the merged British Airways. He can also claim to be the father of water privatisation.

The occasion that triggered ministers' thinking jars instructively with the present hue and cry over water prices. In 1985, Sir Roy had a public row with government when it forced him to push up Thames charges, for the benefit of the Exchequer. Sir Roy challenged the government to privatise what was then the Thames Water Authority to give customers a better deal. By the time Thames was privatised, in much truncated form, state parsimony and higher purity standards had left it with a £3.8 billion capital spending programme to finance.

Customers get a better deal from Thames and its rivals in the private sector, but at the cost of much bigger increases in charges than the Whitehall imposition that prompted Sir Roy's fateful challenge.

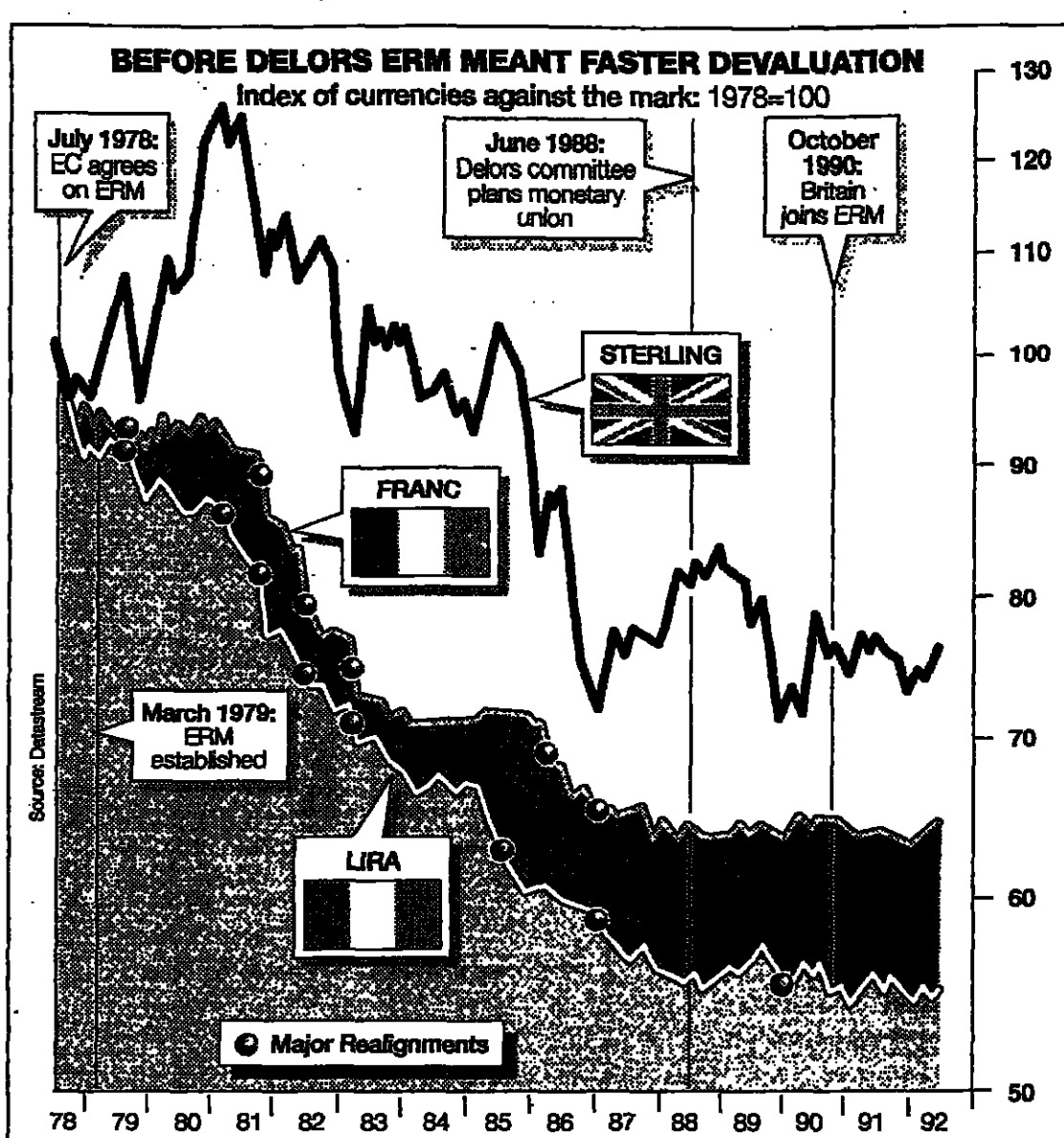
Anatole Kaletsky sees a large measure of wishful thinking in the Euro-sceptic delight over the Danish referendum result

Politicians always have trouble understanding the difference between is and ought. In the two weeks since the Danish referendum, Westminster has been resounding with solemn declarations about the death of Maastricht. Yet anybody who believes that the Maastricht treaty is actually dead must suspect John Major of a bizarre taste for necromancy, not to say necrophilia. What the Euro sceptics and the media really mean when they say that the treaty is dead, is that it ought to be dead, that it deserves to die and that they will do their best to kill it. Clearly, if so many people are so determined to kill something, there must still be some life in it. In the case of the treaty, or at least the main project behind it, which is to create a legally-mandated monetary union throughout Europe by 1999, this seems to me undeniable. Why else would the Irish bother to hold a referendum about it this week and the French in September?

These referendums, rather than any conceivable actions by British politicians, or for that matter Danish ones, will determine whether the Maastricht process goes ahead. As a test of European public opinion, a clear vote in favour by Ireland and France would overwhelm the marginally negative judgment from Denmark. For German politicians to vote the treaty down after a favourable plebiscite in France would be tantamount to declaring diplomatic war. Given the Germans' strong feelings on that subject, their legislators would almost certainly ratify and the show would be back on the road. As I argued last week, the question of how to square Denmark could be safely left to the scribes in the legal departments in Brussels. The most likely solution would be for Denmark to hold another referendum which would take account of the changed circumstances once other EC countries had ratified Maastricht.

In a discussion of what is actually going to happen to European union, there is not much more to be said. We just have to wait for the Irish and French verdicts and until then all declarations that Maastricht is dead are simply wishful thinking.

There is just one exception. Suppose Mr Major stood up and publicly declared that he no longer planned to ratify the treaty — not just that he was delaying ratification because of temporarily political uncertainties, but that he ruled it out, ever. That would indeed deliver the death blow to the plans for European union in their present form. For Euro-sceptics in



Britain, therefore, it is a counterproductive diversion to rhapsodise about the way that plucky little Denmark has killed Maastricht. Instead, they must explain to John Major why the treaty ought to be killed. Unfortunately, in trying to sway the prime minister against European union, the Euro-sceptics are likely to fail.

Apart from the many political and personal reasons why Mr Major would probably prefer to rescue Maastricht rather than kill it, there is an overriding economic imperative. If Mr Major abandoned plans for monetary union he would negate the entire economic achievements of his two years as prime minister — or more accurately, he would remove the only conceivable justification for two years of an economic policy failure unprecedented in Britain's recent history. Ultimately, it will be economics, even more than politics, that forces Britain to pursue the dream of EMU to the bitter end.

At first sight this statement may seem surprising, since most serious analyses of European monetary union suggest that the purely economic benefits, in terms of reduced transaction costs, would be minimal.

while the economic costs, in terms of unemployment, loss of international competitiveness and the difficulty of dealing with country-specific shocks, could be immense. As Martin Feldstein argues at length in this week's *Economist*, the only intellectually respectable arguments for EMU are political, rather than economic. A common currency will act as a symbol of European federalism and will force monetary and fiscal policy to be increasingly centralised, creating the conditions for a pan-European state. For people who passionately want such a state, the economic price of a common currency is well worth paying. But surely the economic motivations of avowed anti-federalists like Mr Major should be the other way?

Logically this would be true, but politics is not a logical business. Mr Major is stuck in the perverse position of being a political anti-federalist but an economic federalist because of the disastrous misjudgment made by Nigel Lawson seven years ago, when the ex-Chancellor and his Treasury advisers suddenly decided that the

only possible way to manage the British economy was by pegging the pound to the German mark. Like the action of a Greek tragedy, every twist in the plot of British political and economic disasters since the late-1980s followed directly or indirectly from this whim of Mr Lawson's. The most significant of these twists came in October 1990, when Mr Major, faithfully following the Treasury script written for Mr Lawson, took Britain into the ERM.

Once ERM membership became the touchstone of British economic policy, and maintaining the strength of sterling was formally declared the government's overriding political priority, Mr Major had no choice but to take each successive step down the road to monetary union.

The reason why ERM membership made it impossible for Britain to resist the march towards EMU is illustrated in the chart. Mr Major has presented ERM membership to the country as a system of permanently fixed-exchange rates which guarantees that sterling will never again be devalued and which requires Herculean adjustments from British industry and years of painful sacrifice by

the public. But these claims are quite simply false. There is nothing in the ERM's rules to prevent a country devaluing as often as it wants. In fact, as the chart shows, both France and Italy devalued considerably more than Britain throughout the first eight years of the ERM. Until 1987, when France last devalued, the ERM was simply a mechanism for smoothing changes in exchange rates and for trying to avoid the most egregious currency overshooting, of the kind that did great damage to both the British and American economies in the early-1980s. In achieving these objects, the ERM was modestly successful. But from 1988 onwards, the system fundamentally changed.

In June 1988, the European Council established the Delors commission to design a programme for full-scale monetary union using the ERM as its starting point. Since the only three currencies that really mattered in the ERM were the mark, the franc and the lira, and given that the French and Italian governments were especially enthusiastic in their backing for monetary union, the nature of the ERM immediately changed. The system's goal was no longer to combat speculation and short-term movements: it was to prepare for EMU by irrevocably fixing exchange rates.

Thus, the ERM Britain joined in 1990 was indeed a fixed-rate system, as Mr Major claimed. But what he omitted to tell the British public was that the rest of Europe had taken the decision to fix its exchange rates not simply as a British-style exercise in economic masochism, but in pursuit of a more important long-term goal: full scale monetary union, leading to political federation.

If the hopes for EMU now disappeared, so would the political raison d'être of the ERM as a fixed-rate system. And if the political justification of fixed exchange rates were removed, then economics alone would certainly not sustain the system, since all the economic arguments against a formal monetary union apply with even greater force to a *de facto* monetary union, which does not even enjoy the two great advantages of a single currency — an absolute guarantee against realignment, and the removal of national balance of payments constraints.

Without the prospect of EMU, Britain's long-term commitment to keep the pound at DM2.95 and its ability to go on financing large trade deficits for years ahead would inevitably be questioned. If Maastricht broke down, all of the pre-election contradictions between the low interest rates necessary to promote recovery and the high rates required to maintain an overvalued currency that coincided with Britain joining the ERM would continue until we left.

The logic of the Euro-sceptic appeal to Mr Major should, therefore, be clear: seize the chance to sabotage Maastricht, and then explain that all your economic policies since you joined the ERM in 1990 have been a ghastly and unnecessary mistake.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Forlorn Midland bid has damaged Lloyds' reputation

From Mr C. Campbell
Sir, At long last, Lloyds Bank has decided to pull out of the battle with the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank for control of the Midland. The question that must now be posed is why did it take them so long to come to this decision.

The bid was doomed from the outset for the following reasons:
1. The likelihood that it would be vetoed by the Monopolies Commission as being against the public interest.
2. Even in the unlikely event that the Monopolies Commission

allowed a bid, it would have enforced oppressive conditions which would have placed the cost-cutting measures of Lloyds in serious doubt.
3. The staff of both banks, MPs, trade unions and small businesses were all against it.

What a waste of time and money it has all been. The proposed £1 billion savings following the merging of the two banks was never proven, and as for the prospect of better services for the customer, there is not an iota of evidence to prove this either.

Matter of fact

From Mr P. N. Archard
Sir, If Mr Benyon had bothered to check his facts before writing the letter to you (*Business Letters*, June 10) he would have found that when I first took issue with Chaset it was not over their forecast for the 1989 account but their forecast for the 1991 account and to a lesser extent 1990. He would also have seen that

when I took issue with them recently, it was very specifically over the 1991 account and their forecast of a loss of some £6 billion of capacity to the market by 1994.

If Mr Benyon were to look at the methods Chaset used to arrive at their forecast for the particular points just mentioned, he might understand why I took issue with them. It is an unfortunate sign of

Taxpayers' money has been wasted by the DTI investigation and Lloyds should come clean and inform shareholders of the cost to the bank of this ridiculous bid.

This forlorn attempt poses serious questions about the senior management of Lloyds. What is certain is that Lloyds' reputation as Britain's best managed bank has been irreparably damaged.
Yours faithfully,
COLIN CAMPBELL,
7 High Gill Road,
Middlesbrough,
Cleveland.

In search of a definition for the true tax goal

From Mr T. McNeill Houston

Sir, It is understandable that Mr Philip Chappell, after so many years of inflation, should recommend "an expenditure tax alone" (*Business Letters*, June 2). By taxing expenditure alone, spending is discouraged and saving made more appealing. Yet it is odd that he should perceive this as "the true goal", when writing of a "fairer tax system which impacts equally on all taxpayers".

Since taxing expenditure alone favours those who have at the expense of have-nots: true goal for whom? Were Mr Chappell a Keynesian he might take the opposite view: a tax on saving alone would encourage spending. Were he a worker without property he could advocate a tax on property to encourage work, or were he a made unionist, a tax on incomes to discourage others from working.

The only tax system whose goal might possibly be described as true, with respect to the whole community, is one whose disincentive effects are imposed proportionally across all economic activity, be that earning, spending, saving or simply owning property.
Yours faithfully,
THOMAS McNEILL
HOUSTON,
4 Carlton Gardens,
Warwick Avenue,
Coventry.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Directors' rate for the job

SIR Adrian Cadbury's call for company directors, among much else, to be made more accountable, has strengthened a campaign by Miles Broadbent, chief executive of Norman Broadbent, the head-hunting consultancy, for their salaries to reflect their workloads more accurately. Broadbent argues that, according to current practice, a non-executive chairman, working, for example, one day a week, receives one fifth of a top salary, giving him anything from £25,000 to £75,000 a year. That could, he says, be seen as excessive for someone who pops in one day a week "for a couple of hours either side of lunch". Conversely, it is, he says, grossly insufficient should the company in question become involved in a takeover bid and the said chairman find himself working seven days a week, night and day. Broadbent says: "Some chairmen, not unjustifiably, reason that they should be paid a six-figure salary in case this event should occur."

Broadbent's proposal is that, under normal circumstances, a basic salary for one or two days a week should apply pro rata, but when extra hours are worked and additional responsibilities are undertaken, a daily rate of £1,000 to £2,000 should be paid. "Without such a system, it seems likely that senior people of ability will become increasingly unwilling to take on the responsibility of chairmanship," Broadbent says. "I have recently successfully advocated this solution, to the satisfaction



of all parties and I would welcome opinion as to whether this is deemed an appropriate and desirable way forward."

Burger Wars

BRIAN Stein, the South African entrepreneur who owns a string of London restaurants including Maxwell's and PJ's Bar and Grill, has been caught up in a curious dispute over his latest venture, the Roadhouse, Covent Garden. It seems that he has received a letter from Robert Earl, president of Hard Rock Café, accusing him of "stealing" the menu from Planet Hollywood, a trendy New York restaurant that Earl owns jointly with Arnold Schwarzenegger. Bruce Willis and Sylvester Stallone. Those in the know say the resemblance is indeed remarkable and have dubbed the exchange of words the "Burger Wars". Stein, who socialises with Jeremy Beadle and other media personalities, remains cool and unfazed. "It was only a trial run," explains a spokesperson about

the offending menu, before denying that there will be any backtracking in the face of Earl's wrath. Word has it, however, that the menu will look entirely different when the Roadhouse opens its doors on Wednesday.

Cash note

CITY workers used to slipping into the cool interiors of St Paul's to listen to the cathedral choir school will get a chance to show their support for its members on July 7, when the Choir School Foundation holds its sixth annual fund-raising concert. With St Paul's facing severe financial difficulties, the choir school also needs help. Last year it started to take in non-chorister day boys to ease its burden and it hopes that the concert, sponsored by Moore Stephens, the accountant, will raise in the region of £30,000 to support its 38 chorister pupils. The programme will feature the City of London Sinfonia, conducted by John Scott, playing Elgar, Sir Hubert Parry's coronation piece and Vaughan Williams's *Mystical Songs* with Peter Coleman-Wright, the baritone, as soloist. Tickets are priced from £8 to £27.50 and are available on 071-248 4260.

A good bet

FUTURE Grand Nationals could attract a special following at Société Générale Tour de France after the arrival of Nick Watts, 39, as chief international investment officer. Watts, previously with John Gower, owns a seven-year-old steel-reinforced, Express Reale, which he believes has "Grand National potential". Following an accident last September, which left the horse lame, Watts spent the rest of the last racing season nursing it back to health and its recovery, almost simultaneous with his new appointment, has been the cause of much rejoicing. "The dream has come alive again," says Watts. "We're both fit and raring to go."

Banking signal

PERHAPS the strongest signal yet that Hill Samuel Bank has moved off an "emergency footing" is that Don McCrickard, TSB chief executive, this weekend finally felt able to hand over the chairmanship of HSB to John Slater, the vice-chairman who is best known for sorting

CAROL LEONARD

European Smaller Companies plc

(Incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985. Registered number 2688404)

INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

Sponsored by

UBS PHILLIPS & DREW SECURITIES LIMITED

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DRESDNER BANK AG

BANQUE NATIONALE DE PARIS

THORNTON & CO. LIMITED

by way of a placing and offer for subscription of up to
20,000,000 Units, each consisting of
5 Ordinary Shares and 1 Warrant, at 500p per Unit

MINI-PROSPECTUS

This Mini-Prospectus describes European Smaller Companies plc (the "Company") and the Offer for Subscription now being made. It contains information in summary form drawn from the Company's Listing Particulars, dated 15 June 1992, which alone contain full details of the Company and the Offer. Copies of the Listing Particulars are available from the addresses set out herein until the Offer for Subscription closes. They are also available, for collection only, from the Company Announcements Office at the London Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2, until 17 June 1992.

In applying for Units you will be treated as applying on the basis of the Listing Particulars, which should be read in conjunction with this document, and the Terms and Conditions of the Offer set out in this document. These govern your rights and obligations.

The London Stock Exchange has authorised the issue of this document under section 154(1)(b) of the Financial Services Act 1986 without approving its contents. This document is not for distribution outside the UK, nor should it be treated as an offer or solicitation outside the UK.

The Directors are satisfied that this Mini-Prospectus contains a fair summary of the information set out in the Listing Particulars.

TIMETABLE

Latest time for receipt of applications	10am on 7 July 1992
Basis of allocation announced	8 July
Interim certificates for Units expected to be despatched	14 July
Dealings in Units begin	15 July
Dealings in Units cease	25 August
Dealings in Ordinary Shares and Warrants (separately) begin	26 August

APPLICATIONS AND DEALINGS

The procedure for application can be found in the Application Form in this document. Application Forms must be posted or delivered by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Registrars' Department, at 67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL, or posted to PO Box 451, Owen House, 8 Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh EH1 1 DTG, to arrive no later than 10 am on 7 July 1992.

It is expected that the basis of allocation will be announced by 5 pm on 8 July 1992 and that dealings in Units will commence on 15 July 1992 on the Frankfurt and London Stock Exchanges. It is expected that dealings in Units will cease on 25 August 1992 and that dealings in Ordinary Shares and Warrants separately will commence on 26 August 1992. Interim certificates for Units will be exchangeable for definitive Ordinary Shares and Warrant certificates after 25 August 1992. Pending exchange of Interim Unit Certificates, transfers will be certified against the Company's register.

The minimum level of application is for 200 Units. Investors wishing to apply for more than 200 Units must do so in multiples of 20 Units.

INVESTMENT IN EUROPE

Many of Europe's economies have recently experienced a slowdown in growth. Share prices on major European stock markets are generally lower in real terms than they were at their historic peak levels.

The Directors believe that European stock markets will soon anticipate a recovery and that the time is now right for investors to re-assess Europe and increase their exposure to European smaller companies.

An economic powerhouse

With moves towards a single market and single currency within the EC, and the anticipated merger of the EC and EFTA, it is logical to regard these economies as a single trading bloc.

Comparisons with other major nations demonstrate the significance of this bloc:

Region/Country	Nominal GDP (\$bn) ⁽¹⁾	Population (m) ⁽²⁾
EC and EFTA	7,083	377
USA	5,567	252
Japan	3,363	124

Source: (1) OECD provisional figures for the 1991 calendar year, from "Main Economic Indicators", March 1992. (2) OECD provisional figures for the 1990 calendar year, from "Main Economic Indicators", March 1992.

The Directors believe that the economies of Europe should benefit from sustainable growth, with Germany being the focal point, partly as the reunification process leads to greater prosperity.

Much has been written about the single market concept. In particular, the Cecchini Report commissioned by the EC and published in 1988 forecasts an increase in EC GNP of between 4% and 7% in the medium term as a consequence of the removal of the physical, fiscal and technical barriers to competition.

European harmonisation

The members of the EC are drawing closer together with the continuing harmonisation of regulations, product standards and eventually currencies and fiscal policies. This harmonisation is expected by the Directors to lead ultimately to a lowering of costs and to efficiency improvements as companies will have to conform to fewer sets of standards for the different European countries.

Capital movements across Europe are also becoming easier as capital controls have been reduced. This has been reflected in an increase in cross border corporate acquisition activity.

The Directors expect these capital flows to increase further if Europe moves towards a single European currency. The lowering or removal of exchange rate risks should encourage both capital flows and trade volumes within Europe. This in turn should improve economic efficiency and competitiveness across the European currency bloc, adding to Europe's long term economic prosperity.

The introduction of a single currency and potentially more centralised fiscal policies could help to free some countries, such as the UK, from frequent concerns about their external trade accounts. This, the Directors believe, would help overall economic stability within Europe.

Eastern Europe and the reunification of Germany

The Directors believe that there are a number of reasons why the redevelopment of Eastern Europe will benefit Europe as a whole:

- New opportunities for Western European companies to establish themselves in Eastern Europe and to benefit from cheaper skilled labour.
 - New demand for Western European goods and services from Eastern Europe.
 - The possibility of some Eastern European countries becoming members of the EC and ultimately full participants in the single market.
- The Directors consider that there are three main benefits of German reunification for Western European companies:
- An increased pool of skilled labour.
 - 16 million new consumers who, as their incomes increase towards Western European levels, will create an increased market for consumer goods.
 - A high level of infrastructural spending which should benefit many industries, particularly telecommunications and engineering.

Stock market capitalisation

Although aggregate GDP in Europe is greater than that in the USA or Japan, the combined stock market capitalisation of Europe is disproportionately lower.

	Nominal GDP (\$bn) ⁽¹⁾	Stock market capitalisation as percentage of nominal GDP ⁽²⁾
EC and EFTA (including UK)	7,083	35
EC and EFTA (excluding UK)	6,077	26
USA	5,567	65
Japan	3,363	69

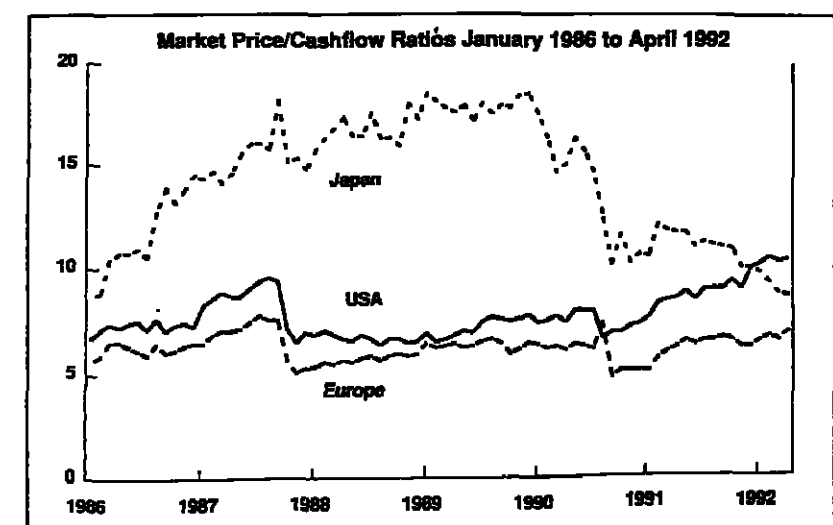
Source: (1) OECD provisional figures for the 1991 calendar year, from "Main Economic Indicators", March 1992. (2) Morgan Stanley Capital International.

The Directors believe that aggregate European stock market capitalisation, relative to nominal European GDP, will increase. Further privatisation issues are expected to be launched and existing quoted companies are likely to continue to raise capital and broaden their investor bases, increasing the size of the markets and improving liquidity. The Directors expect that, to enhance performance, institutional investors will increase their exposure to European equities relative to fixed income securities and direct investment in property. It is also likely that stock market reform will continue and foreign ownership laws will be relaxed.

Value available in European companies

The Directors believe that many European companies are undervalued compared to their international counterparts.

- European accounting practices tend to understate the level of reported earnings, although this is not generally true of the UK. Relative valuations for investment purposes can be made more accurately by looking at cashflow, defined as net profit after tax plus depreciation. On this basis, Europe (including the UK) at 30 April 1992 was trading on a price/cashflow multiple of 6.9, compared with 10.3 for the USA and 8.6 for Japan.



Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

KEY INFORMATION

- Introduction**
- BNP, Dresdner and Thornton are now launching European Smaller Companies plc.
- The Company**
- The Company is incorporated in England and will be managed so as to qualify as a UK investment trust company. Application has been made for its Ordinary Shares and Warrants to be listed on the Frankfurt and London Stock Exchanges and the Second Marche of the Paris Stock Exchange.
 - The Company will issue Units, each consisting of five Ordinary Shares and one Warrant, at £5 per Unit.
 - A Warrant will confer the right, on 30 November each year from 1993 to 2002 inclusive, to subscribe for one Ordinary Share at the price of 100p.
- Investment policy**
- The Company will invest, on a Pan European basis, in an actively managed portfolio of quoted UK and Continental European smaller companies with a view to achieving significant capital returns for investors.
 - The companies in which the Company will invest will have a freely available market capitalisation of between US\$30 million (approximately 39 million ECU) and US\$600 million (approximately 773 million ECU).
 - Dresdner has compiled and maintains a smaller company index which is designed to comprise companies incorporated and quoted in the European Community ("EC") and European Free Trade Association ("EFTA") which fall within this definition. This index will be the benchmark against which the Company's performance will be judged.
 - The Investment Managers expect the median market capitalisation of companies initially comprising the portfolio to be in the order of US\$230 million, broadly similar to that of the Dresdner index.
- The attractions of European smaller companies**
- The Directors believe that:
- The establishment of the EC single market should enable Europe to develop further as a leading economic power.
 - The reconstruction of Eastern Europe will be of continuing economic benefit to most of Europe, and Germany in particular.
 - Many European smaller companies are presently undervalued.
 - The longer term performance of smaller companies indices is superior to that of larger companies indices.
 - Investments in smaller companies offer better value than larger companies as markets anticipate an economic recovery.
- Management**
- The Company will benefit from having fund managers covering each of Europe's major stock markets.
 - The Company will enjoy the extensive resources of BNP in France, Dresdner in Germany and Thornton in the UK.
 - A new investment management technique has been developed to combine strengths in Pan European asset allocation, quantitative stock selection and active management.
 - BNP, Dresdner and Thornton already possess considerable expertise in smaller companies investment management.
- Personal Equity Plans**
- Securities in the Company will be eligible for inclusion in a Personal Equity Plan up to a maximum investment of £6,000.

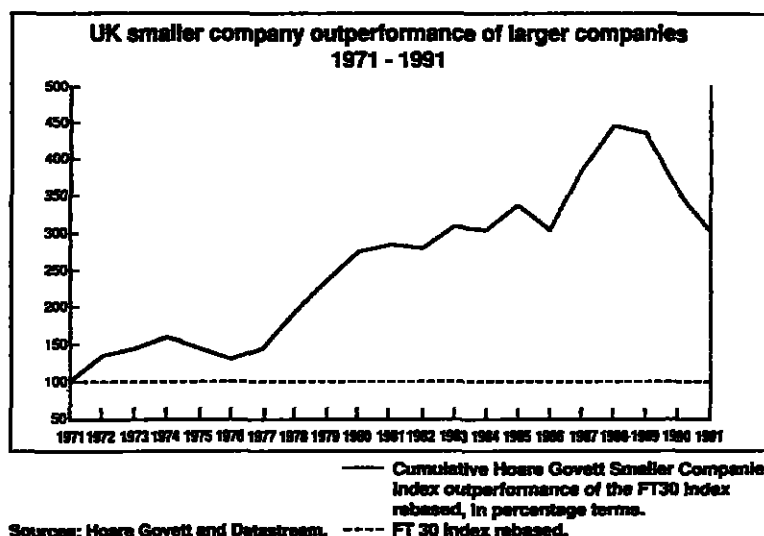
The value of assets on balance sheets tends to be understated in Continental Europe. The Directors believe that this hidden asset value will be unlocked as a result of both merger and acquisition activity and a general increase in the demand for Continental European equities.

The Directors believe that the above factors collectively indicate a strong long term case for investing in Europe.

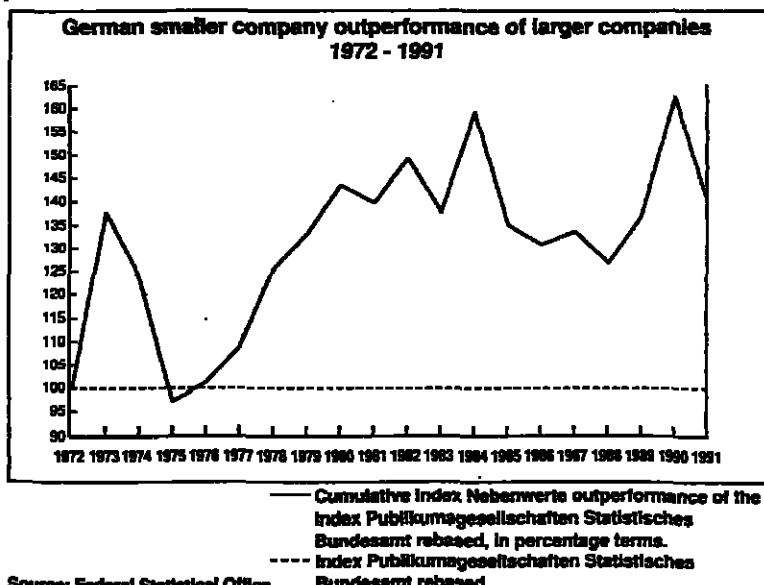
THE CASE FOR SMALLER COMPANIES IN EUROPE

Long term outperformance

The cumulative long term performance of smaller companies indices tends to be better than that of larger companies indices. Over the last two decades smaller companies indices in the UK and Germany have on average outperformed larger companies indices.



Source: Hoare Govett and Datastream.

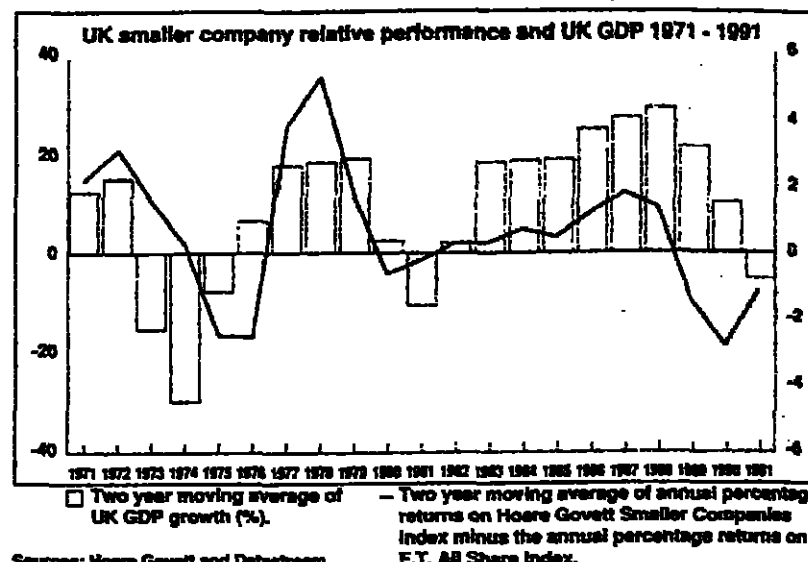


Source: Federal Statistical Office.

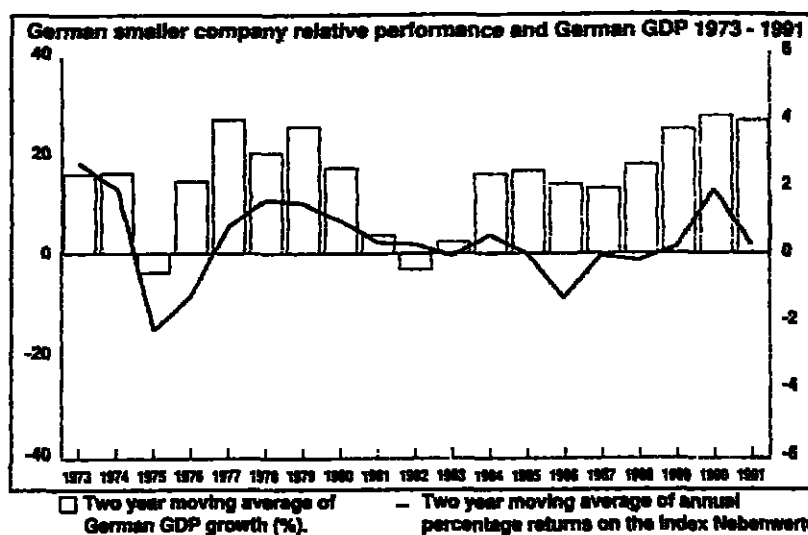
No similar statistics exist for other European countries over such a long period, but the Directors are convinced that similar trends apply to smaller companies throughout Europe.

Sensitivity to economic activity

Smaller companies as a sector are more sensitive than larger companies to the level of economic activity in the local economy. During periods of rapid economic expansion (as during the late 1980s), smaller companies tend to outperform broad market indices. Conversely, during periods of weak economic activity (as at present), smaller companies have tended to underperform broad market indices. When looking at this relationship it is useful to compare GDP growth with the relative performance of smaller companies. The charts below show this analysis applied to the UK and Germany, plotting the historic performance of smaller companies indices relative to broad market indices and GDP. They demonstrate that smaller companies tend to reflect movements in the levels of economic activity.



Source: Hoare Govett and Datastream.



Source: Federal Statistical Office.

In the short to medium term the Directors believe that interest rates will be lowered throughout Europe and that economic activity will enter a phase of growth. The Directors do not consider that current share prices reflect adequately the above average returns which they believe are likely to be available from smaller companies.

In the opinion of the Directors, the sensitivity of smaller companies to the economic climate is likely to be an important factor in their outperformance of broad market indices when economic activity does recover. The Directors believe that smaller companies are likely to have realised cost savings and efficiencies more effectively than larger companies and will therefore benefit more in terms of profitability from economic recovery.

New investment in Continental European smaller companies

The Directors believe that the above arguments for investing in European smaller companies are likely to be reinforced by a fundamental shift of investment into Continental European smaller companies.

Continental European and international investors have traditionally invested more in Continental European bonds and less in equities. The Directors believe that this balance is changing and that substantial new funds will be invested in smaller companies.

Furthermore, the Directors believe that the increased regulation of stock exchanges and companies and EC harmonisation of accounting standards have increased investor confidence in smaller company investment. The Directors also believe that the increasing ease with which overseas investors can deal in Continental European equities should reinforce this trend.

Finally, many quoted Continental European smaller companies have large family interests. The Directors believe that these and other companies are likely to seek additional equity financing thereby diluting the family interests and increasing liquidity.

Now is the time to invest

As a consequence, in the opinion of the Directors, now is a good time to invest in European companies and smaller companies will offer better value than larger companies as markets anticipate an economic recovery.

STRUCTURE OF THE ISSUE

The issue is principally directed towards institutional and retail investors in France, Germany and the UK. Application has been made for the Company's Ordinary Shares and Warrants to be listed on the Stock Exchanges of Frankfurt and London and the Second Marche in Paris.

The Company is raising up to £100 million by an international placing and an offer for subscription of up to 20,000,000 Units at £5 per Unit. Each Unit will consist of five Ordinary Shares and one Warrant. The Offers are conditional, *inter alia*, on a minimum of 7,000,000 Units being subscribed.

The Directors intend to conduct the affairs of the Company in such a manner as to satisfy the conditions for approval as an investment trust set out in section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Such approval is granted retrospectively for each accounting period. The Company will be exempt from UK corporation tax on capital gains in respect of each accounting period for which such approval is granted.

The Directors believe that the closed-ended capital structure of an investment trust company is well-suited to the investment policy under which the Investment Managers will invest, principally in that such a structure allows the Investment Managers to take a longer-term view of the Company's investments without being forced to acquire or dispose of investments depending on the demand for the Ordinary Shares of the Company itself.

Whilst it is not intended that the Company should have a limited life, it is considered desirable that shareholders should have the opportunity to consider the future of the Company at the annual general meeting in 1997. Accordingly, at the annual general meeting in 1997, and at every second annual general meeting thereafter, the Directors will put forward an ordinary resolution proposing the continuation of the Company. If such resolution is not passed, the Company will be wound up.

Ordinary Shares and Warrants

The Ordinary Shares will rank in full for all dividends and other distributions declared, made or paid by the Company.

A Warrant will confer the right, on 30 November each year from 1993 to 2002 inclusive, to subscribe for one Ordinary Share at the price of 100p. Subscriptions should be paid in Sterling.

Personal Equity Plans

By purchasing up to 1,200 Units, UK resident individuals will be able to include an investment of up to £6,000 in a Personal Equity Plan.

Up to 1,200 Units (or such lower number as does not cause an individual's total contribution to his PEP to exceed £6,000 in the 1992/93 year of assessment) allotted to a UK resident individual under the Offers can be transferred into a PEP if the terms of that PEP so allow, within 42 days of the date of allotment of the Units. The date of allotment for Units is expected to be 14 July 1992 and the last date for such transfer is therefore expected to be 25 August 1992. Ordinary Shares and Warrants are expected to be traded separately from 26 August 1992. Once the Warrants are traded separately, they may not be transferred into a PEP.

Any applicant intending to transfer Units into a PEP within the relevant period should make the necessary arrangements with his PEP manager for such transfer.

The information about PEPs above is based on the Company's understanding of the current law and practice relating to PEPs and is subject to any changes therein.

TAURUS

TAURUS is a new electronic system being introduced by the London Stock Exchange which will replace share certificates. It is currently planned that it will commence operation in Spring 1993. The initial holders of Ordinary Shares and Warrants have already passed the necessary resolutions to allow the Company's securities to be converted into uncertificated form, provided that the Directors are satisfied with the arrangements, so that the Company can join in the TAURUS system at an early date. Subscribers under the Offers will receive certificates for the Units allotted to them and the Ordinary Shares and Warrants will not be converted until the TAURUS system has come into operation. The Company will notify holders of Ordinary Shares and Warrants in advance of conversion taking place and there will be announcements in selected newspapers.

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Introduction

European fund management has in the past normally been undertaken by fund managers based in one country with one perspective on the region. European smaller company investment requires a combination of specialist skills: strong macroeconomic expertise to assist successful geographical allocation and detailed individual company analysis for profitable stock selection. BNP, Dresdner and Thornton have now combined their substantial resources to create a European smaller companies fund management team. This team is able to draw on fund management expertise in three major financial centres, Paris, Frankfurt and London, to combine high quality company research with broad economic analysis.

Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end June 26. \$Contango day June 29. Settlement day July 6. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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57.86	Refurbish	205	9	11.7	78	
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THE BUSINESS FOR SALE

BY DAVID GERMAN

REPORTING THIS WEEK

BET profits likely to be halved

TODAY

THE full-year profits at BET will be halved, but this business services group should be over the worst despite the continuing tough markets. BET, under John Clark, the new chief executive, has made hefty inroads into its debt burden via last May's £212 million sale of Biffa, the waste management unit, and has strictly controlled working capital and capital expenditure.

Bob Carpenter, at Kleinwort Benson, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £112 million, against £217 million last time. Forecasts range from £100 million to £115 million. Kleinwort thinks the dividend will be cut to 8.6p (18.5p), although it could be 6.5p or lower. "How the dividend goes is anyone's guess," said Mr Carpenter. Earnings per share are forecast at 8.6p (18.5p).

Political sparks will no doubt fly this week as East Midlands Electricity begins the reporting season for the regional electricity distributors, all of which are expected to achieve bumper profits. Full-year pre-tax profits are forecast to advance 36 per cent to £145 million, according to County NatWest. Forecasts

range from £140 million to £147 million. The dividend is expected to rise 13 per cent to 17p.

Interim: Intercare Group, Trust. Final: BET, Camborne Industries, Davenport Knitwear, East Midlands Electricity, Renold, Vibroplant, Wellman, Wipac.

Economic statistics: United Kingdom balance of payments (first quarter).

TOMORROW

Richard Allan, at Kleinwort Benson, expects Hazlewood Foods, the food manufacturer, to show final pre-tax profits of £52 million compared with £51.2 million last time.

Final pre-tax profits at National Power, the larger of England's two privatised electricity generators, should brighten to £510 million (£434 million), according to County NatWest. Forecasts range from £500 million to £520 million.

Norweb, the regional electricity company that is based in Manchester, is likely to announce final pre-tax profits of £125 million (£60.7 million), according to Hoare Govett. Forecasts range from £125 million to £130 million.

Interim: Henderson Highland Trust, London & Clydeside Holdings. Final: Bradford Property Trust, Craig & Rose, Cranawick, Estate House Group, Hazlewood Foods, Melville Street Investments.

National Power, Norweb, Safeland, Shelton (Martin), Volex Group. Economic statistics: Company liquidity (first quarter); public sector borrowing requirement (May).

WEDNESDAY

Cable and Wireless, the telecommunications group that is chaired by Lord Young of Grafton, will benefit from a healthy performance from its operations in Hong Kong, which accounts for nearly two thirds of group profits, and from Mercury in Britain.

Keith Sykes, at Credit Lyonnais Laing, is looking for final pre-tax profits of £645 million (£609 million).

Market forecasts range from £635 million to £650 million. Earnings per share are predicted to be static at 31.3p a share for the third year running, with a dividend of 14p (11.8p) anticipated.

A strong performance is expected from Hong Kong, where Cable and Wireless owns 58.5 per cent of Hong Kong Telecom. Analysts will pay close attention to the tone and content of what James Ross, the new chief executive, has to say about both trading and prospects.

Mark McVicar, at County

NatWest, expects NFC, the transport, freight and distribution company, to report first-half pre-tax profits of £39 million (£39.5 million). Analysts will be interested to hear the company's "best view" for the full year. They will also, no doubt, take a close look at how NFC's fleet of short-term rental trucks, which is the largest in Britain, is faring as it is an extremely fine economic barometer.

Interim: Chemring Group, Gestatner Holdings, River Plate & General Investment Trust. Final: Booth Industries, Bulgin (AF), Cable and Wireless, Mountview Estates, Waddington (John).

Economic statistics: Retail sales (May); index of production (April).

THURSDAY

Didier Cowling, at Nomura, has pencilled in taxable profits of £46.4 million (£39.3 million) for London International Group, the Durex condoms to surgical gloves and photoprocessing group. Forecasts range from £42 million to £46.5 million. The photoprocessing operations are not doing too well in the United Kingdom.

Severn Trent, the water company chaired by John

Bellak, is forecast to achieve final pre-tax profits of £264 million (£249 million), according to Peter Hyde at Kleinwort Benson. Biffa is expected to contribute about £12 million at the operating level, although interest costs relating to its purchase are estimated at about £18.6 million.

Interim: Lookers, Widney, Fifeles, Brookhampton Holdings, Chloride Group, Dawson International, GEI International, Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems, London International Group, Marweb, Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, Severn Trent, Shanks & McEwan Group, Stirling Group. Economic statistics: Labour market statistics: unemployment and unfilled vacancies (May — provisional); average earnings indices (April — provisional); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes; provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (May); major British banking groups' monthly statement (May).

FRIDAY

Interim: Bankers Investment Trust, Caldwell Investments, Granger Trust, Jersey Electricity Co. Final: Aminex, JF Fledgling Japan. Economic statistics: Cross-border acquisitions and mergers (first quarter); CBI monthly trends enquiry (June).

PHILIP PANGALOS



Hong Kong boost: C&W's Lord Young, who should report higher profits

Summer focus is back on public spending round

The basic trend in long-dated gilt yields that has been in place since sterling joined the ERM remains downwards. However, it has not all been plain sailing. In the early part of last year, yields jumped from 9.7 to 10.3 per cent before declining to 9.3 per cent in the late summer. Likewise, the early part of this year saw yields soar to 9.8 per cent in the aftermath of the Chancellor's announcement that the PSBR would double to £28 billion in the current financial year.

The post-election rally in the gilts market that took yields down to 8.8 per cent appears to have run out of steam for now, particularly as the fall-out from the Danish referendum continues to reverberate around European bond markets. In the mean time, it is German bonds and their satellites — Belgium and The Netherlands — that have enjoyed the inflow of funds from investors worried about ERM realignment risks and the uncertain future of EMU. In many European bond mar-

financial year 1995-6. Even then, it was on the basis of what seems to be fairly optimistic growth forecasts of 3-3.5 per cent during that period. The likelihood is that the economy will have difficulty growing much above the trend rate of 2.5 per cent on a sustainable basis. If anything, ERM disciplines on monetary policy and the need to tighten fiscal policy during the medium term, point to a period of below-trend growth and high unemployment.

Against this background, it will come as no surprise that inflationary pressures are likely to remain subdued for some time. However, it might not be until next year that there is convincing evidence in the wage and price data that inflation has been "licked" and that both "underlying" and "headline" rates of inflation can drop to the 3-3.5 per cent rates seen in France, Belgium, Denmark and Ireland.

If inflation in Britain can fall to these levels, then clearly there are better opportunities

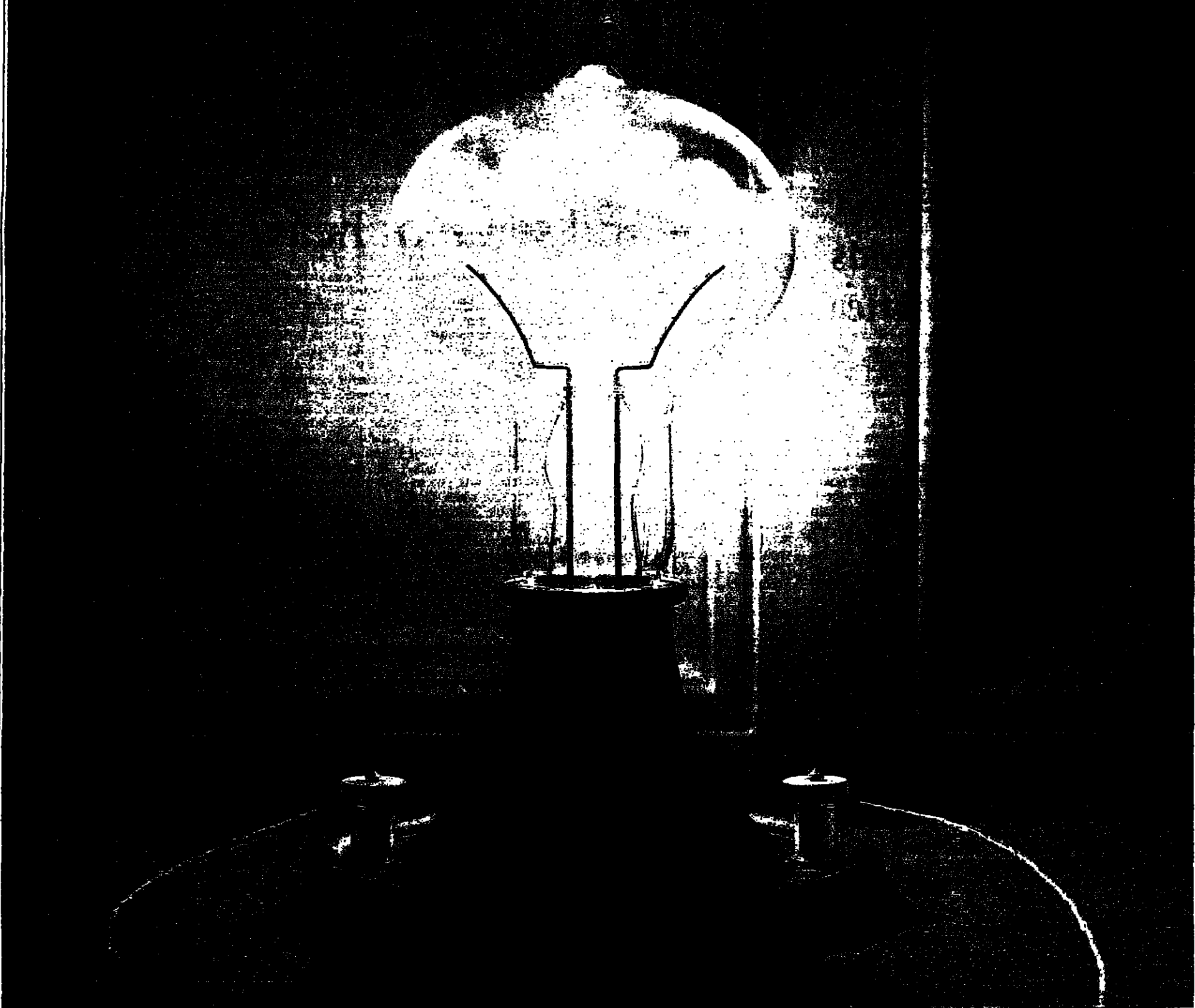
Whether British interest rates can fall below German rates this year is debatable

for base rates to sustain a reduction into single-digit territory. Whether British interest rates can fall below German rates this year is debatable, especially with sterling remaining weak in the ERM grid. Speculation of a Cabinet split over Maastricht will do little to bolster sentiment towards sterling. In addition, the likelihood of another set of poor trade figures will dampen any lingering enthusiasm as well. The Bundesbank shows no signs of relaxing its grip on German interest rates.

There are one or two bright spots on the horizon, however. German inflation is set to fall to 4 per cent later in the summer from 4.5 per cent now and money supply growth is expected to move closer towards the 5.5 per cent ceiling.

This will allow the Bundesbank to ease its rates in October, thus providing the opportunity for badly needed interest relief in Europe. Hopefully, this will coincide with better news on inflation in Britain and the next downward leg in gilt yields and interest rates.

NEIL MACKINNON
Chief Economist
Yamaichi Securities

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Matsuoaka suffers hangover from epic semi-final victory over Edberg at Queen's Club

Ferreira proves little with first title

BY ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

WAYNE Ferreira, of South Africa, joined an exclusive company of Stella Aronis champions yesterday, beating Shuzo Matsuoaka 6-3, 6-4 in a disappointing final at Queen's Club. Among the past winners of this event have been John McEnroe (four times), Jimmy Connors (twice), Boris Becker (twice) and Stefan Edberg, who, among them, have mastered ten Wimbledon titles.

But not since Boris Becker emerged from nowhere in 1985 has anyone completed the double of Queen's and Wimbledon. Apart from a faint tinge of red in his hair, Ferreira has little in common with the German, and to imagine that he could follow the same path to the Wimbledon trophy would stretch credibility to the limit, however well he has played over the past week.

On his way to his first career title and a prize of £39,314, Ferreira has beaten nobody ranked higher than 16 in the world, which was not his fault, of course. With Edberg, Becker, Pete Sampras, Guy Forget and Goran Ivanisevic in the field, there was no shortage of top-class competition when the week began.

Conveniently, Matsuoaka had accounted for two of the most dangerous seeds, Ivanisevic and Edberg, and there was more than a hint yesterday that the Japanese No. 1 had taken so much out of himself in his epic semi-final defeat of Edberg, the defending champion, that he had nothing more to give. He had played 73 games over the previous two days in over 100 degrees of heat and saved six match points — two in the tie-break, four in the final set — before beating Edberg 1-6, 7-6, 10-8.

Yesterday, Ferreira simply had to sweep up the pieces. It was a match between the best server and the best returner of the week. Matsuoaka, the first unseeded finalist since Leif Shiras in 1984, began the day with the highest number of aces, 42 in five matches; Ferreira with the highest percentage of breaks in the tournament.

In the event, much to the chagrin of a host of celebrities lining the court, battle was never joined. Matsuoaka was unable to find either rhythm or consistency on his service. Six more aces were balanced by four double faults.

Ferreira, who began with a winning cross-court pass, returned incisively enough to break once in each set. That proved to be enough.

In contrast, Matsuoaka could not pick up the No. 12 seed's intelligent variations on serve. He did not have one break point during the 70 minutes of the match and, for the first time in a momentous week for him, began to look weary, dispirited and a little like the 81st best player in the world.

One skimming backhand pass on the first of Ferreira's two match points was his only sign of recovery. A sore serving arm, which needed treatment at the end of the first set, did not help his cause, and with a bow to the crowd, who had been captivated by his courage, he departed.

"I just couldn't find any rhythm," Matsuoaka said. "He put pressure on my serve every time and at the beginning I was a little bit tight. I tried. He was very good."

Ferreira, aged 20 and a former junior semi-finalist at Wimbledon, will gain enormous confidence from his first success. He has shown glimpses of his undoubted talent and has a good temperament for the big occasion, as he proved in beating John McEnroe on the centre court in Melbourne earlier this year on his way to the semi-finals of the Australian Open.

"It inspires me when the crowd is against me because, hopefully, by the end they will be supporting me," he said.

Finding consistency has been his main trouble and he has been hampered by a persistent thigh and back injury this year. "I did well in patches, but this is the first time I have put together a number of matches," he said. "I didn't do anything different. I just tried to concentrate on each match a little harder and not worry what anyone else was doing."

The South African's record at Wimbledon — two wins and two defeats — is not as good as it should be. But one of the wins was over Yannick Noah and one of the losses to his countryman, Christo van Rensburg, who knocked Becker out of this tournament in the second round, so it is a little misleading.

More importantly, he enjoys playing on grass and he should now be seeded for Wimbledon.

Stefan Edberg is 2-1 favourite with Coral to win the men's singles championship at Wimbledon from June 22. Other leading prices: 9-2 Boris Becker; 7-1 Jim Courier; 15-2 Michael Stich; 10-1 Pete Sampras; 12-1 Goran Ivanisevic; 16-1 Andre Agassi; 20-1 Pat Cash.



On the back foot: Matsuoaka concentrates on a backhand against Ferreira at Queen's Club yesterday

Schultz nets second title

BY BARRY WOOD

BRENDA Schultz defeated Jenny Byrne 6-2, 6-2 yesterday in the final of the Dow Classic at Edgbaston, to claim the winner's cheque of £27,000 (about £14,600) and the second title of her career.

The match, which lasted 54 minutes, was a disappointing affair. Byrne's game was flat and she failed to produce much evidence of the stinging backhands that had overwhelmed Jo Durie so decisively in the semi-finals.

However, Schultz, aged 21, who had to save a match point in the second round, fully deserved her victory.

Her service often allowed Byrne little chance of making a constructive return, and her

voleys found their mark almost without exception.

"I knew my serve was going well and my volley was good, and I started with a lot of confidence," Schultz said. "I really fancy my chances at Wimbledon. I think I can beat anyone."

Byrne's service was her greatest liability, and was largely responsible for her conceding the first set. She double faulted on break point to trail 1-2 and 1-4. Her delivery settled down in the second set, but her third double fault gave Schultz a break point to lead 3-2, and the Australian followed that with a netted forehand.

"I felt a little bit tired after playing so many matches this week, but she didn't give me a chance to settle in," Byrne said.

She acknowledged that the Dutch girl's service had played a significant role. "She's always capable of getting out of tricky situations with a big serve, and she proved that several times," she said.

Schultz is coached by Juan Nunez, who previously coached her friend, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: B Schultz (Holl) to J Byrne (Aust) 6-2, 6-2; J Byrne (Aust) to D Dudgeon (GB), 6-3, 6-1. Final: Byrne to Schultz, 6-2, 6-2.

Stich finds peak form

MICHAEL Stich, of Germany, yesterday prepared for his defence of the Wimbledon title with a comfortable 6-4, 7-5 victory over Jonathan Stark, an unseeded American, in the final of the grass-court tournament in Rosmalen, Holland.

The win sent Stich to No. 4 in the world rankings, ahead of Boris Becker, his compatriot, who had an early exit from the Stella Aronis tournament.

"It was the first time on grass this season and it went well," Stich said. "I think I'm playing the best grass-court tennis, maybe even better than last year."

RESULTS: Semi-finals: M Stich (Ger) to J Stark (USA) 6-4, 7-5; J Stark (USA) to B Schwarzer (Holl), 6-4, 7-6. Final: Stich to Stark, 6-4, 7-5.

SWIMMING

Pickering lowers British record for second time

BY CRAIG LORD

KAREN Pickering will this morning depart for the Olympic training camp in Narbonne, France, as the seventh fastest entry in the 100 metres freestyle for Barcelona after lowering her own British record to 56.11sec at the Optrex national championships in Sheffield last night.

Having broken June Croft's ten-year-old record at the Olympic trials three weeks ago, Pickering confessed to being "stunned" after shaving another 0.2sec off her best. She put the performance, which secured her fourth title at the championships, down to mental, rather than physical, strength.

"I couldn't have been better physically prepared than for the trials," she said. "But, mentally, I'm tougher and the pressure was off here." That much was evident by the gulf of smooth water between Pickering and those in her wake.

Pickering, aged 20, believes circumstances dictate that she will fulfil her potential for figuring among the eight Olympic finalists in the 100 and 200 metres freestyle.

Reasons to be cheerful include the presence of Dave Champion, her coach at Ipswich, and her Analox blood-testing machine on the national team training camps. "I feel the physical and mental strengths are coming together at the right time. It's really exciting," she said.

Kathy Read completed a clean sweep of backstroke races by adding the 100 metres title to those she had won at 50 and 200 metres. She did so in a British record of 1min 03.49sec and was joined by her Barnet teammates — Mike Fibbens, Mark Foster and Martin Harris — as some of the Olympic team members who had retained

good form for the championships.

The only other British record fell to James Parrack. His 28.63sec for the first 50 metres of the 100 metres breaststroke heats on Saturday morning also deprived Adrian Moorhouse of his remaining Commonwealth long-course record.

But Parrack was left trailing at the 100 metres mark behind Moorhouse, the Olympic champion, and Nick Gillingham, the fastest in the world at the 100 and 200 metres, his main event, this year.

Gillingham, who won his first 100 metres title on Saturday, added the 200 metres to his tally and was surprised at the standard of his efforts. "I had mixed feelings about swimming at the championships," he said. "I wanted to support the event but didn't really want to put it all on the line again. I feel me and Adrian met on equal terms here, so I'm pretty pleased."

Gillingham's Birmingham team-mate, Paul Howe, the Olympic men's team captain, collected his third successive 200 metres freestyle title ahead of Steven Mellor and Paul Palmer.



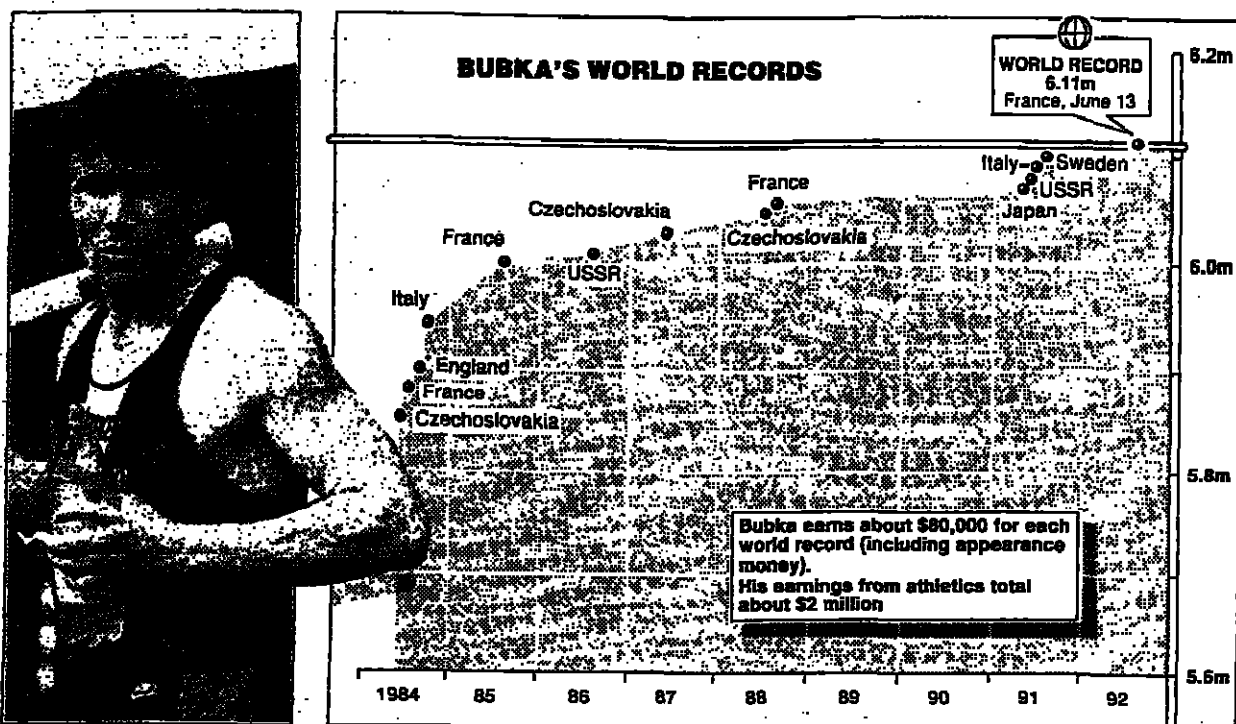
Pickering: 'stunned'

RESULTS FROM SHEFFIELD

MEN: 100m freestyle: 1. K Pickering (Barnet), 56.11; 2. P Moore (City of Birmingham), 56.30; 3. M Lock (City of Cardiff), 56.51. 200m freestyle: 1. Pickering, 2.00.50; 2. S Vickers (Stoke), 2.01.20; 3. P Palmer (City of Lincoln), 2.01.54. 50m backstroke: 1. M Harris (Barnet), 1.01.26; 2. J Croft (City of Birmingham), 1.01.30; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1.01.35. 100m backstroke: 1. N Harris (City of Birmingham), 1.01.35; 2. J Tatum (Preston), 1.01.35; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1.01.35. 200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2.02.10. 400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4.02.10. 800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 8.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 8.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 8.02.10. 1600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 16.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 16.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 16.02.10. 3200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 32.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 32.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 32.02.10. 6400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 64.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 64.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 64.02.10. 12800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 128.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 128.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 128.02.10. 25600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 256.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 256.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 256.02.10. 51200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 512.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 512.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 512.02.10. 102400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1024.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1024.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1024.02.10. 204800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2048.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2048.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2048.02.10. 409600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4096.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4096.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4096.02.10. 819200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 8192.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 8192.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 8192.02.10. 1638400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 16384.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 16384.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 16384.02.10. 3276800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 32768.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 32768.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 32768.02.10. 6553600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 65536.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 65536.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 65536.02.10. 13107200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 131072.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 131072.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 131072.02.10. 26214400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 262144.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 262144.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 262144.02.10. 52428800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 524288.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 524288.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 524288.02.10. 104857600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1048576.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1048576.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1048576.02.10. 209715200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2097152.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2097152.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2097152.02.10. 419430400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4194304.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4194304.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4194304.02.10. 838860800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 8388608.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 8388608.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 8388608.02.10. 1677721600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 16777216.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 16777216.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 16777216.02.10. 3355443200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 33554432.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 33554432.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 33554432.02.10. 6710886400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 67108864.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 67108864.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 67108864.02.10. 13421772800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 134217728.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 134217728.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 134217728.02.10. 26843545600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 268435456.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 268435456.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 268435456.02.10. 53687091200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 536870912.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 536870912.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 536870912.02.10. 107374182400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1073741824.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1073741824.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1073741824.02.10. 214748364800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2147483648.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2147483648.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2147483648.02.10. 429496729600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4294967296.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4294967296.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4294967296.02.10. 858993459200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 8589934592.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 8589934592.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 8589934592.02.10. 1717986918400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 17179869184.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 17179869184.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 17179869184.02.10. 3435973836800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 34359738368.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 34359738368.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 34359738368.02.10. 6871947673600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 68719476736.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 68719476736.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 68719476736.02.10. 13743895347200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 137438953472.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 137438953472.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 137438953472.02.10. 27487790694400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 274877906944.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 274877906944.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 274877906944.02.10. 54975581388800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 549755813888.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 549755813888.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 549755813888.02.10. 109951162777600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1099511627776.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1099511627776.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1099511627776.02.10. 219902325555200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2199023255552.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2199023255552.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2199023255552.02.10. 439804651110400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4398046511104.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4398046511104.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4398046511104.02.10. 879609302220800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 8796093022208.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 8796093022208.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 8796093022208.02.10. 1759218604441600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 17592186044416.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 17592186044416.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 17592186044416.02.10. 3518437208883200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 35184372088832.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 35184372088832.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 35184372088832.02.10. 7036874417766400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 70368744177664.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 70368744177664.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 70368744177664.02.10. 14073748835532800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 140737488355328.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 140737488355328.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 140737488355328.02.10. 28147497671065600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 281474976710656.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 281474976710656.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 281474976710656.02.10. 56294995342131200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 562949953421312.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 562949953421312.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 562949953421312.02.10. 112589990684262400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1125899906842624.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1125899906842624.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1125899906842624.02.10. 225179981368524800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2251799813685248.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2251799813685248.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2251799813685248.02.10. 450359962737049600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4503599627370496.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4503599627370496.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4503599627370496.02.10. 900719925474099200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 9007199254740992.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 9007199254740992.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 9007199254740992.02.10. 1801439850948198400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 18014398509481984.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 18014398509481984.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 18014398509481984.02.10. 3602879701896396800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 36028797018963968.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 36028797018963968.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 36028797018963968.02.10. 7205759403792793600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 72057594037927936.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 72057594037927936.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 72057594037927936.02.10. 14411518807585587200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 144115188075855872.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 144115188075855872.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 144115188075855872.02.10. 28823037615171174400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 288230376151711744.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 288230376151711744.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 288230376151711744.02.10. 57646075230342348800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 576460752303423488.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 576460752303423488.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 576460752303423488.02.10. 115292150460684697600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1152921504606846976.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1152921504606846976.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1152921504606846976.02.10. 230584300921369395200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2305843009213693952.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2305843009213693952.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2305843009213693952.02.10. 461168601842738790400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4611686018427387904.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4611686018427387904.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4611686018427387904.02.10. 922337203685477580800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 9223372036854775808.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 9223372036854775808.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 9223372036854775808.02.10. 1844674407370955161600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 18446744073709551616.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 18446744073709551616.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 18446744073709551616.02.10. 3689348814741910323200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 36893488147419103232.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 36893488147419103232.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 36893488147419103232.02.10. 7378697629483820646400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 73786976294838206464.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 73786976294838206464.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 73786976294838206464.02.10. 14757395258966641292800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 147573952589666412928.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 147573952589666412928.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 147573952589666412928.02.10. 29514790517933282585600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 295147905179332825856.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 295147905179332825856.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 295147905179332825856.02.10. 59029581035866565171200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 590295810358665651712.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 590295810358665651712.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 590295810358665651712.02.10. 118059162071733130342400m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 1180591620717331303424.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 1180591620717331303424.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 1180591620717331303424.02.10. 236118324143466260684800m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 2361183241434662606848.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 2361183241434662606848.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 2361183241434662606848.02.10. 472236648286932521369600m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 4722366482869325213696.01.53; 2. A Cooper (Dorchester), 4722366482869325213696.02.07; 3. J Tatum (Preston), 4722366482869325213696.02.10. 944473296573865042839200m backstroke: 1. Gillingham, 94447329657386504

Bubka pockets \$80,000 for another centimetre

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT



IT DEPENDS whose statistics you consult but, according to his own reckoning, Sergey Bubka set a pole vault world record in Dijon on Saturday which was rather more significant than most of those he has set before. "I would like to break Paavo Nurmi's 29 world records; at the moment I have 28," he said last September. Now he has 30.

Over the years athletics literature has tended to recognise Nurmi, the Finnish runner, as the greatest record breaker in history, though a 1991 International Athletic Foundation (IAF) publication, described as "definitive" by Peter Matthews, the British statistician, credits Nurmi with 35 records and Bubka with only 18 (now 22). It says that Bubka has been

penalised because unofficial indoor records, where inferior to outdoor ones, have been excluded. However one looks at it, Bubka's clearance of 6.11 metres in Dijon was his fourteenth outdoor world record. Each time the bar goes up, so does his bank balance. Including appearance fee and bonuses from meeting promoter and kit sponsor, he earns in the re-

gion of \$80,000 from each record.

So it is hardly surprising that, since clearing 6.05 metres four years ago, Bubka has improved the outdoor world record a centimetre at a time, taking career earnings to somewhere in the region of \$2 million.

After winning the world title for the third time last year, Bubka joined the Berlin team, Olympischer Sport. The contract gave him £70,000 a year, an apartment and free plane tickets to take his family back home to the Ukraine whenever he wished.

"As long as I do better and better I will continue," Bubka, aged 28, says. Which means there is plenty of money still to be made. He has, after all, we are informed, cleared 6.25 metres in training.

WORLD RECORD PROGRESSION

5.45	Wolfgang Nordwig (E Germany)	17.870	5.93	Viggenor	1.9.83
5.46	Nordwig	2.970	5.98	Sergey Bubka (Soviet Union)	26.5.94
5.49	Christos Papadimitriou (Greece)	24.10.70	5.98	Bubka	2.6.94
5.51	Kjell Isaksson (Sweden)	8.4.72	5.98	Bubka	13.7.94
5.51	Isaksson	14.7.72	5.98	Bubka	31.8.94
5.55	Isaksson	12.6.72	5.91	Viggenor	31.8.94
5.58	Bob Seegen (US)	2.7.72	5.94	Bubka	31.8.94
5.58	Seegen	28.3.75	5.94	Bubka	13.7.95
5.62	Earl Bell (US)	29.5.76	6.01	Bubka	8.7.95
5.67	Wladimir Kozlovskiy (Poland)	11.9.80	6.03	Bubka	23.8.97
5.70	Wladimir Kozlovskiy (Poland)	22.5.76	6.05	Bubka	9.6.98
5.75	Thierry Vigneron (France)	1.8.80	6.06	Bubka	10.7.98
5.77	Philippe Nourdin (France)	17.7.80	6.07	Bubka	6.8.98
5.79	Kozlovskiy	30.7.80	6.08	Bubka	26.9.91
5.84	Viggenor	20.8.81	6.09	Bubka	8.7.91
5.81	Vladimir Polyakov (Soviet Union)	28.6.81	6.10	Bubka	9.8.91
5.82	Pierre Quinon (France)	28.8.83	6.11	Bubka (now CIS)	13.6.92

Faldo faces Open field with lots of know-how

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo is well aware of the Everest he must climb to win the US Open, which starts at Pebble Beach on Thursday. He must overcome not only a challenging course, but also the record book.

It is 22 years since a British player, Tony Jacklin, won the US Open. Gary Player, of South Africa, and David Graham, of Australia, are the only other non-Americans to have won since the second world war.

The choice of Pebble Beach will assist the American challenge. The course is the regular venue for the AT&T National Pro-Am on the USPGA Tour.

Johnny Miller, who won the US Open in 1973, said: "Usually the Europeans are not at a disadvantage at the US Open because the rest of the field is as unfamiliar with the course as they are. That will not be the case this week."

"And of all the courses that the US Open is played on, Pebble Beach requires the most local knowledge. The greens are the hardest in the world to read. If you don't know them, you can miss a lot of putts."

Jackie Burke, the former Masters champion, put it more colourfully. "Playing Pebble Beach is like fighting Rocky Marciano," he said. "Every time you step on to the course, you're a cinch to take a beating." Bob Hope calls it "Alcatraz with grass".

Nicklaus, who won the US Open at Pebble Beach in 1972, maintains it is his favourite course. He has been on a weight training programme for several months to be fully fit for this week and he believes that at the age of 52 he can win the US Open for a fifth time. "I wouldn't play if I didn't think I could win," he said.

There are, according to Nicklaus, 30 to 35 players who can win the US Open. He said that Faldo was capable of intimidating his rivals by putting himself on the leader board.

Faldo's confidence has increased since he won the Carrolls Irish Open a week ago. He is without his regular caddy, Fanny Sunesson, but few players are likely to be better prepared.

David Leadbetter, the teacher responsible for remodelling Faldo's swing, is convinced the Englishman is better equipped now than he was when he lost in a play-off for the US Open to Curtis Strange in 1988. "Nick can play all the shots and you need a full repertoire at Pebble Beach," he said.

Ian Woosnam, the joint runner-up in 1989, Severiano Ballesteros, Howard Clark, David Feherty, Anders Forsbrand, Sandy Lyle, Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie, José María Olazábal, Steve Richardson and Ronan Rafferty complete the European challenge.



Power play: Wamba hits the target against Rudenko, the WBC cruiserweight challenger, on Saturday

Wamba checks Russian's ambition

Paris: Ancel Wamba, of France, easily retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) cruiserweight title by stopping the Russian, Andrei Rudenko, in the fifth round of a scheduled 12-round contest on Saturday.

Rudenko was seeking to become the first Russian boxer to hold a professional world title; however, he was no match for Wamba. The Frenchman was the dominant force from the start,

scoring heavily with jabs and straight rights and an occasional right uppercut to Rudenko's jaw.

Finally Wamba imposed his superior technique. In the fifth round a solid left-right combination stunned Rudenko, then two solid rights staggered him before Wamba sent him down with two more rights. Rudenko was up slowly but was in no condition to continue and the contest was stopped by the

referee, Joe Cortez, of the United States. Rudenko had only 12 professional bouts before being allowed to compete for a WBC title through a special category created for boxers with meagre professional results but an impressive amateur career.

Rudenko, aged 21, from Saint Petersburg, has ten victories, two losses and one draw. He said he won 164 of his 186 amateur bouts and was European amateur light-

heavyweight champion. Wamba, aged 28, a native of Congo, took the WBC title last year from Massimiliano Duran, of Italy, and beat Duran again in his only other defence. His career record is 28-1.

The contest initially was scheduled for December but was postponed when Rudenko was jailed in connection with a brawl at a restaurant in Berlin. He said he was accosted by neo-Nazis.



Nicklaus: fit

ROWING

Medal eludes Searle brothers

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT, IN LUCERNE

GREG and Jonny Searle beat the world champion Abbagnano brothers, of Italy, in the coxed pairs final at Lucerne yesterday but failed to end amongst the medals after allowing a top-class field too much leeway in the early stages.

The Searle brothers, six seconds adrift at 1,000 metres, then increased the pressure in a lonely outside lane and came back to fourth at the line, producing the best performance of the men's senior squad in spite of Jonny Searle minding with heavy strapping to a rib stress fracture.

The performance of the men's fours will come under debate before the Olympic team is named on Wednesday. The top British coxed four, winners at Lucerne in 1991, finished fifth yesterday, ahead of their selection rivals but well adrift of record-breaking crews from Poland and the USA. The exclusion of one coxless four from official participation after missing their race on Friday clouds the issue and their "guest appearance" in the Saturday repechage was somewhat meaningless.

The women and light-

weights brightened the British day with five sets of medals.

Ali Gill and Annabel Eyres are beginning to look like medal prospects for the women in Barcelona. Just two top German crews bettered them at Lucerne in the double sculls. Tish Reid's four-year campaign for selection in a single could be nearing fruition. Her ninth place is a marginal selection position, but three Germans were ahead of her and only one will attend the Olympics.

The British lightweighters seem to be on course for medals in their Montreal Championships in August. The newly formed men's eight won bronze and Bill Mason achieved a treble with his lightweight women. His coxless four took bronze and, with a new boat arriving next week, Mason considers "they have a lot to come." "Magnificent" was his assessment of his newly formed silver medal double scull of Trish Corless and Helen Mangan and single sculler, Sue Key, who achieved bronze.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Yugoslav athletes' hopes hit

Lausanne: Yugoslav athletes have few remaining hopes of going to the Olympic Games in Barcelona because Spain has said it will apply United Nations sanctions and bar them from the country, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said yesterday.

In a statement after an emergency meeting on Yugoslavia, the 10-member IOC executive board said it accepted the Spanish government's stance, conveyed in a letter on Friday.

It said the IOC will continue to seek a solution to allow Yugoslav participation in the Games until July 11, the day the Olympic Village in Barcelona opens. The Games start on July 25. "We will make all efforts to safeguard the rights of the athletes," Juan Antonio Samaranch told a news conference after the meeting at the body's headquarters. "But at this moment I am not very optimistic."

POLO

Prince has last say for Maple Leafs

By JOHN WATSON

THE encounter for the Dorchester Trophy, which was played off over the weekend at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, resulted in a 5-3 victory for Galen Weston's Maple Leafs against Prince Abdullah of Malaysia's Royal Pahang (received 1½). The duel which was staged in aid of the Cancer Relief McMillan fund, was also a league match for the Royal Windsor Cup.

Royal Pahang had the best of the first half of this hard-fought tussle. Their No. 3, Guillermo Caser, opened the account in the first 30 seconds from the saddle of an exceptionally swift bay mare, the Argentine Ranchera, which he sold to Prince Abdullah at the start of this season. Jason Dixon, standing in for Prince Abdullah who was ill, combined neatly with Caser, and the score board showed Pahang up 3-2 at half-time.

The Maple Leafs gathered strength during the fourth chukka. Their forwards, Nick

Evans and Robert Hissom, dovetailed increasingly well with the team's pivot, Hugo Barabucci, who was recently elevated to a 7 handicap and who showed the most impressive control of the ball, while the Prince of Wales was always steady in the Maple Leaf's back position.

After Barabucci had put his squad into the lead in the last chukka, the Prince of Wales finally raced through from the rear to give them a more convincing win.

In another Royal Windsor league match yesterday Barabucci (received 4) beat Ellerston White, 8-4-8. Gonzalo Pires, of Ellerston White, under suspension until July 19, has, instead, been fined £7,500 with an 18-day suspension.

MAPLE LEAFS: 1, R Hissom (2); 2, N Evans (4); 3, H Barabucci (7); Back, The Prince of Wales (8) ROYAL PAHANG: 1, M Hissom (2); 2, J Dixon (3); 3, G Caser (7); Back, M Forester (2) BARBARI: 1, A Farnshaw (10); 2, M Woodhead (5); 3, A Brodie (8); Back, J Ellerston White (11) LESTER WHITE: 1, J Kild (2); 2, J Garrow (3); 3, A Kent (7); Back, B Webb (11)

ATHLETICS

Injury to Elliott gives selectors further concern

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

PETER Elliott, the Commonwealth 1,500 metres champion, hopes to be back in training this week after breaking down with a knee injury at the end of a mile race in Rotherham on Friday.

Elliott's instant reaction to the damage was that it might rule him out of the Olympic Games in Barcelona next month, but the fears were less pronounced yesterday.

"He has seen the physio and I think it will be a matter of only two or three days without any running," Kim McDonald, Elliott's manager and coach, said. "It is just a question of how quickly he can get back to running fast."

McDonald had advised Elliott against racing in Rotherham, but the British No. 1 felt a commitment to his local supporters and his 3min 54.8sec proved training had gone well. "There is nothing to panic about in relation to Barcelona," McDonald said. "It is just a matter of doing the right thing and running in Rotherham was the wrong thing."

Matthew Yates, the British No. 2, today receives the result of medical tests after his withdrawal from the Rome grand prix last week. The immediate diagnosis was a chest infection and he was advised not to train for ten days.

The sudden uncertainty over Britain's two leading 1,500 metres runners may leave the Olympic selectors at a difficult decision when they announce their team. "The policy was to select the team on June 28," David Cropper,

the chairman of selectors, said yesterday. "But obviously with people of that calibre you have got to consider what your options are. If those sort of people do not run the trial it is unlikely that the first three would be the ones with the most potential for getting medals in the Games."

Jason Livingston said on Saturday that he could be an Olympic finalist this summer after becoming Britain's second-fastest 100 metres runner. His 10.09sec, with the help of a legal tail wind, put him ahead of Allan Wells, the 1980 Olympic champion. Only Linford Christie, with 9.92sec, is ahead of him.

Whether or not Katrin Krabbe, the 100 and 200 metres world champion, wins International Amateur Athletic Federation clearance to compete in Barcelona, she seems to have little chance of making an impression. Even with a tail wind on Saturday, she was almost a second slower than her best for 100 metres when she ran her first race since the German federation lifted her ban for an alleged drugs violation. Competing in Neubrandenburg, Krabbe recorded 11.70sec, saying that she had suffered "excessive psychological pressure" from the affair.

One athlete who will not be in Barcelona is the men's 400 metres hurdles runner-up from 1988, Danny Harris. He has been banned for four years after testing positive for cocaine in February. "He has had a cocaine problem since 1989," Bob Kersee, Harris's coach, said.

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Is Boris good enough?

Boris Yeltsin has had a tumultuous year as Russian president.
Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor, assesses a living symbol of
democracy and reform against all the political odds

A year ago a burly, silver-haired engineer from a remote village in the Urals became the first democratically elected leader of the world's largest country. The wonder is not that Boris Yeltsin, against all the political odds, broke with communism, challenged the Soviet leader, faced down an attempted coup and survived; the wonder is that after a tumultuous year which has seen prices rise to at least 30 times the old rate and inflation approach 1,000 per cent, he still enjoys a popularity rating of around 50 per cent. The worry is that he has become indispensable. While he remains in the Kremlin, there is an even chance that Russia will successfully negotiate the transition to full democracy and a market economy; if fate, a coup or a heart attack removed him now, the outlook would be bleak indeed.

Mr Yeltsin's first year in office has been dominated by the two issues that defined Mikhail Gorbachev: the transition to a market economy and the nationalism that is pulling apart the fragile Commonwealth of Independent States. Unlike Mr Gorbachev, who was paralysed by the spectre of chaos thrown up by reform plans and unable to commit himself to any alternative, Mr Yeltsin has taken a bold, radical position and largely stuck to it. Even before the collapse of the Soviet Union last December, he had decided that communism could not be dismantled slowly; Russia had to break free from it as rapidly as possible. His first step was therefore to outlaw communist cells and party meetings in factories — a step that infuriated the old guard and arguably speeded up the plans of the August conspirators. After the coup, he decided to outlaw the entire party — a popular move which appears to have survived a legal challenge by the hardliners trying to reconstitute the party.

Breaking free from communist economics meant picking a government untainted by the half-hearted attempts at fudge and reform under Mr Gorbachev. Passing over senior, experienced economists, Mr Yeltsin chose as his deputy the man who has taken Russia's biggest gamble in opting for immediate deregulation of prices, Yegor Gaidar. At first Mr Yeltsin was reluctant to trust his government to an unknown, baby-faced academic and his 20-member team of free market theorists. It took the threat of a parliamentary revolt by Democratic Russia, Mr Yeltsin's main

base of support, to clinch the appointments in November. Since then Mr Yeltsin has kept his nerve and his faith in the team, even when the price rises in January threatened hardship for millions and led to hyper-inflation. He has also stuck by his commitment to privatisation, deregulation and the eventual convertibility of the rouble. He has taken Russia into the International Monetary Fund, invited in its experts and analysts, and broadly accepted their painful prescription of tight money, an end to subsidies, realistic energy prices and austerity. And he has stood up to his conservative critics, especially in the Russian parliament.

Nevertheless, Mr Yeltsin has not been able to force through a hostile parliament key elements of his government's programme including privatisation, a law on bankruptcy and, most importantly, a commitment to give back land to the people and farms to private ownership. He has had to rule by emergency decree, leading weight to critics' accusations of dictatorship. Nor has his support for the Gaidar team been politically blind. Faced with a groundswell of criticism over inflation, unemployment and bankruptcies, he has recently circumscribed Gaidar's radical zeal, sacking a liberal oil minister, bringing three old-style Soviet ministers into the cabinet and postponing full liberalisation of energy prices. He has also begun to bite the Western hands attempting to feed him, criticising the IMF and insisting that Russia will not bow its head to foreign bankers.

His tactics reveal a political shrewdness underestimated by his enemies and in the West. Former President Nixon was one of the few to recognise a fellow master practitioner. Like Khrushchev, he said, Mr Yeltsin concealed beneath an offish peasant exterior an extremely sharp intellect. Like a powerful tsar, Mr Yeltsin has deliberately kept himself aloof from the daily battles between parliament, still dominated by conservatives, and his government. He will not expend his political capital, nor be the lightning rod for the anger generated by every clash. The big test came in April, when opponents attempted to censure the government, slow down economic reform and limit Mr Yeltsin's power. Rather than argue out his case in public ad

nauseam as Gorbachev used to, Mr Yeltsin made himself almost invisible, encouraging squabbles among frustrated critics and appealing over their heads to the broader public. The mood turned against his opponents. His cabinet and his reform programme survived.

When under siege, Mr Yeltsin has shown resolution: no Russian has yet forgotten his address to loyal followers from atop a tank during the August coup. He came out with fighting talk also when the right was mustering its forces to exploit popular discontent in winter, warning that he felt the "hot breath of fascism" on his neck. He also knows how to exploit his popular support. He has travelled extensively around Russia as president to take stock of the mood. He has insisted on seeing the worst, on cutting through the trappings of office, on bluff talk and emotional rallies. Two weeks ago, faced with mounting despair over unpaid wages, he brought a second plane with him on a visit to the Mongolian border, loaded with 500 million roubles in cash, and joked that no one should now doubt his word.

Mr Yeltsin has had to deploy all his shrewdness over the other issue that has dominated his presidency: the tense relations between Russia and the other republics, and in particular the acrimonious and potentially disastrous quarrel with Ukraine. The focus of the dispute has been the unified armed forces of the CIS, and in particular control of the Black Sea fleet. In angry language touching almost on demagoguery, Mr Yeltsin insisted at first that the fleet was Russian and that Russia would defend its interests. But Mr Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk, the Ukrainian leader, both know that they cannot afford an escalation of the quarrel.

On the need to preserve unified armed forces, Mr Yeltsin has reversed his position. He now accepts that the CIS command has virtually ceased to exist — except in the control of nuclear weapons — and has agreed to the establishment of a Russian army, with himself as commander in chief, and a Russian defence minister. He has also accepted that the Black Sea fleet will be split between Russia and Ukraine.

Mr Yeltsin insists that he has not turned his back on the CIS, and that he still believes in close economic and political cooperation, especially with Kazakhstan and the rest of Central Asia. But he has



Boris Yeltsin: his year was dominated by the transition to a market economy and nationalism

taken a tough stand on quarrels between Russia and its former fellow Soviet republics. Despite his early support for Baltic independence and condemnation of the bloody Soviet crackdowns there, he has resisted Baltic demands for an earlier withdrawal of Russian troops. He has also thrown Russia's moral weight behind the Russian-speaking minority on the east bank of the Dniestr in its resistance to the Romanian-dominated government in Moldova.

More difficult has been Moscow's response to nationalist demands from the myriad of restless ethnic groups within the sprawling Russian federation. Here Mr Yeltsin's tactic has been a lofty magnanimity. Knowing how dependent the various autonomous republics are on Russia, he has happily conceded the principle of subsidiarity, and avoided confrontation with volatile groups such as the Tatars and the Chechen-Ingush. His patience has paid off: he managed to negotiate a new federation treaty that was in the end accepted by all, and disillusion with the more extreme nationalists is already apparent in such fief-

doms as Chechen-Ingushetia.

Mr Yeltsin's skill has been to rally the support of two quite contradictory groups: the liberals who believe communism made Russia cruel and the nationalists who believe communism made it weak. Maintaining the support of both has been crucial to his relations with the outside world but he has not wanted to appear the darling of the West at the expense of accusations of selling out Russia's interests. He made his debut on the world stage at the United Nations Security Council summit in January, where he established cordial relations with Western leaders — especially John Major — but he has not flaunted these back home.

Mr Yeltsin is likely to be a difficult guest at next week's Washington summit. And last-minute haggling over arms control details, together with some familiar accusations of American bad faith, will only help him at home, especially with the suspicious military. The advantage is that whereas Mr Gorbachev was able to present an acceptable image of the Soviet Union to the West, Mr Yeltsin can sell pro-Western policy to Russia.

Much of what leaves the West still wary of Mr Yeltsin is precisely what gives him strength at home: his emotional, impetuous nature, his risk-taking, devil-may-care attitude. Russians see in him one of their own: a warm, extravagant man, brave, reckless and with peasant shrewdness. Mr Yeltsin has adequately carried out the ceremony of office, but clearly is not

the smooth practitioner Mr Gorbachev was. He has left diplomats floundering and his own officials embarrassed when he has disappeared inexplicably from view and cancelled meetings — with James Baker, the American Secretary of State, for example — without any notice.

Two big questions hang over Mr Yeltsin after a year in office. The first is his health. He is, without doubt, a hard and frequent drinker. Russians are indulgent of his infamous binges, though accusations of public drunkenness are becoming more and more a liability, not least because of the ammunition they give his critics. Despite considerable physical stamina, he has a history of heart problems, and

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has already suffered a heart attack. A combination of drink and overwork could provoke a fatal one.

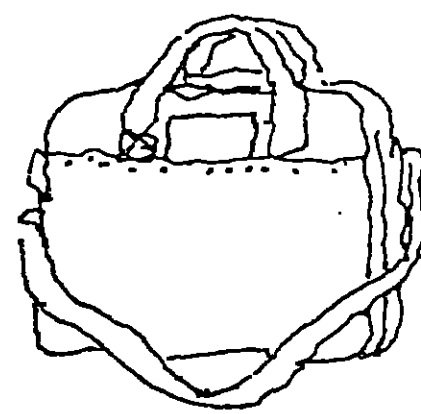
The other question is whether he is in the end sufficiently committed to reform to lead his country to the New Jerusalem. There is no doubting his Pauline conversion from totalitarianism to democracy and acceptance of the will of the people. But Mr Yeltsin's inevitable need to trim to political realities, his reversion to some old ways and personalities from the past, his understandable reluctance to preside over the ruin of Russian industry in the cause of greater efficiency and IMF demands all raise questions on whether he can keep up the pace and zeal of reform.

He understands, as Mr Gorbachev did not, that the country cannot mark time or it will slip right back to the bad old ways. He knows that he probably has less than a year to show some results. He also knows that public tolerance of rising crime rates, falling production, food shortages, unprecedented corruption and the flashy stink of new money being earned by the privileged few will not last much longer. Russian anger may turn ferociously against him.

For the moment, he is a vital symbol of democracy and reform, a figure whose authority is indispensable to a country that has only ever made real progress under benevolent despots. But is this enough to rescue Russia from its past?

TOMORROW

Richard Cork on the
state of the avant-garde



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Filthy lucre? Seems pretty clean-cut to me

There are some conversations you just don't hear in Britain. Like "What do you do?" Oh, consultant-neurologist, eh? Money good, is it? Or "I did like your Hamlet, Mr Branagh. Nice income in Shakespeare, isn't there?" Nor "What I love about being archbishop/admiral of the fleet/warden of All Souls is that they do pay bang on the nail!" The rule is that the higher you get up the tree the less you want the money to be mentioned. White-collar types, creative souls, even field marshals of industry tend to prefer the vocabulary of vocation, challenge and service.

Hence the expressions of pained surprise when shareholders or the media start to fuss about a chief executive's extra hundred thousand a year. "The money is hardly relevant," says the target plaintively from his Home Counties bunker. "It's a question of competitiveness with the private sector... really a very small proportion... benefit to the company of attracting top talent... and we media types have got a real brass neck anyway, complaining. The next *Newsnight* interviewer to raise an ironic gentlemanly eyebrow at some highly paid public servant should first don a large medallion with his own earnings (including after-dinner

speaking) boldly written on it. Print journalists could just append the information to their byline, as in "Come off it, Sir Rupert! Why should decent folk struggle while you take 20 per cent says Glenda (half a million plus car) Slag, Woman of the People."

The Americans rarely understand this peculiarly British blend of hypocrisy and idealism. The more secure our salary the less we wish to discuss it. It becomes embarrassing to admit that we get paid at all. Even headhunters and talent spotters don't say: "Baby, this one is the big buck." Instead they say things like "Perhaps your people could talk to my people about this one" and make you feel pretty silly if you don't happen to have any people. Once it's in the post, we forget the whole distasteful business and sail along, vocation and ideals of service gleaming like the proud upperworks of a ship, disguising what keeps us afloat.

Until someone rocks the boat, revealing its slimy, rusty, barnacled underside for a moment. Albert Finney gave it a lovely shove recently when he left a West End play because, he said, he hadn't been paid. Speaking on Michael Parkinson's radio show, Mr Finney is reported to have said: "I discover that I have not been paid for some

WORKING LIFE

Never be coy about
asking for money,
writes Libby Purves



time and have decided to withdraw my services. If I'm not paid, I don't appear." Imagine, my dears, the frisson in the upper reaches of theatre. Instead of talking exclusively about challenge and interpretation and how fabulous it is working with dear, dear Kate again, here we have a distinguished thespian coming on like a jobbing brickie. No pay, no play. Myself, I find it oddly comfort-

ing. Just as it is comforting to quote Dr Johnson's "Nobody but a blockhead ever wrote except for money," I flung that one at a local writers' group once, in exasperation at their having invited me round in order to tell me that anyone published commercially was guilty of selling out to the media barons. The correct attitude for a writer was to be full of integrity, independent of public taste, and unread by any but the fellow cognoscenti of the circle. There was a lot of this uppityness around after the Sixties, magically linking old money and young socialism: I had an aristocratic flatmate who said: "It's absolutely super, Purves! I was brought up to despise Trade, and now I can call it Capitalism and still despise it." The feeling is rarer now except among the kind of artists who do pretty well anyway out of Channel Four.

But vicious and unfair as it may sometimes be, there is something healthy about the market-place. A labourer is worthy of his hire, and if that is not recognised everything goes sour. Witness the long conspiracy to describe nurses as angels and policemen as saints while paying them peanuts. It is nice to have a Finney occasionally, to make the link robustly on behalf of us all. He might even give me, the world's

weakest character in these matters, courage to tell a particular magazine that, despite our agreeable meetings of minds on the telephone, I'm not sending in the next piece until they stump up for last April's, so there.

Yet the idealism fights back. That piece of work means something to me. Who wants to be a mere mercenary? In every field there are ideals of service: men who turn out late on Christmas Eve to mend your boiler and charge no extra, doctors who spend private time on NHS patients out of interest and kindness, big-name actors who work for £160 a week because the play is the thing.

Perhaps the knack is for both sides to admit the situation openly. Charles Handy, the management writer, advocates making a distinction between paid work and gift work: as long as you know which you are doing at any given moment you don't mind. Finney's "I discover that..." is significant. Maybe if that play's management had called the cast together and said, "Times are bad, the money's run out, but aren't we all having fun? Shall we try another week, do you think?", who knows what would have been the outcome? Maybe our silence about money is, in the end, just another enemy of promise.

Last o
and d

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA
The festival's 1992 season begins on Monday with the premiere of *Die Walküre*, Wagner's first of the four operas of the Ring cycle. The production is by the festival's artistic director, Sir David McVicar, and features a cast of international stars. The festival runs from June 15 to July 12, with performances at the Glyndebourne Opera House, Glyndebourne, Kent. Tickets range from £10 to £150.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
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STARS FROM THE BOLSHOI BALLET
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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

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NEW RELEASES

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THEATRE

Words spelt out in blood

A Judgement in Stone
Lyric Hammersmith

THIS is something special. Gloria, the multi-talented producing company, call it a musical thriller and so it is, adapted by Neil Barlett from the Ruth Rendell novel and set to music by Nicolas Bloomfield. But it is also a musical occasion, an adult, literate evening at the theatre, free of the slosh and goo, the false heroics and the fake sentiment that are pumped into the general ruck of musicals and leave you brain-dead by half-time.

Judgement is delivered by Miss Eunice Parchman, a seemingly perfect housekeeper, middle-aged, not given to expressing her feelings in words, not able to read or write any words other than those of her own name.

For nearly a year, Eunice manages to hide her secret shame from her new employers, the happy Coveleades, whose minor house in Suffolk is represented, in Mark Bailey's design, by a huge colour photograph across the back wall. Never was there a house with so luridly red a roof. As the drama heightens, the lighting (David Kavanagh) intensifies the colour of the flies. They glow as if painted with fresh blood.

Unlike Eunice, the Coveleades read incessantly. In the village Mrs Smith, the postmistress who becomes her confidante, reads the Coveleades' mail. Eunice sees herself as a freak and on Valentine's Day she is revealed, murdering the happy family of Mr and Mrs Coveleade, Miss and Master Coveleade, as they sit watching *Don Giovanni* on television. Only then, in the last of the musical's 12 songs, does



Judging, and finely judged: Beverly Klein and Sheila Hancock

religious "Confession" have a Firbankian or Sandy Wilsonish relish, but their very precision works against the character's craziness. This wobble in the tone does not affect the excitement of the evening, nor detract

REWARDS OF A REAL VOICE

Weill, Women and Song The Place

THIS Weill recital by the Canadian soprano Katherine Johnson, given as part of the London Opera Festival, was an instructive evening.

Weill seldom wrote for fully trained operatic voices after his early forays into the German subsidised theatre. Rather he was inspired by *chanteuses*, notably his wife Lotte Lenya, and later such Broadway stars as Mary Martin and Gertrude Lawrence: the three operatic legends required for *Street Scene* are the exception to prove the rule. But he still wrote for singers with real voices, proper breath control and a decent range, and his songs are sung at their peril by most of today's *chanteuses*, who are incapable of projecting anything without a microphone two inches from their noses.

Johnson is a fully fledged lyric soprano - Gounod's Marguerite is one of her roles - with the sort of meaty tone that at first hearing might be thought too overwhelming for such tender parlours.

She certainly started out that way, singing the Barbara Song from the *Dreigroschenoper* as though it were something left over from *Die Walküre*, and there is the additional problem that songs from the Brecht pieces take on a completely different character when wrenched out of their flippantly alienated contexts. Still, it was hard not to respond to her crunchy, throwaway Pirate Jenny, her blessedly un-sentimental Surabaya Johnny or, best of all, "Wie nian sich better" from *Mahagonny*, which really does need an operatic voice.

After that bumpy start, though, she fitted her voice down, fielded a seductive mezzo voice and showed that Weill really does repay the sort of musical phrasing and verbal colour that you take for granted in a Lieder recital devoted to Schubert or Wolf. Her delivery of "Foolish Heart" and "Speak Low" from *One Touch of Venus* and the exquisite "It never was you" from *Knickknack Holiday* was both beguiling in itself and a further nail in the coffin of that absurd myth of Weill's post-German decline: these are wonderful songs with wonderful lyrics (Ogden Nash and Maxwell Anderson respectively).

Best of all were the two numbers from *Marie Galante*, sung in good, clear French: "Le roi d'Aquitaine" had ideal comic innocence, and "Jattends un navire", that authentic 20th-century hymn to the human spirit triumphant in adversity, duly wrung everyone's wipers. A very likeable singer, worthy of her material.

RODNEY MILNES

THEATRE

A mess on Main Street

Courting Winnona Old Red Lion, Islington

BIG Dipper Productions aims to bring new American writing to British audiences. If Los Angeles-based Jonathan Field's new play is typical, publication would seem an unwarrantable infringement on the integrity of the timber forests, and transatlantic transportation a wanton waste of fuel.

In a small New Mexican town a newcomer, radio showman Billy Bond, Lizbeth whose former beau, Sticks, suddenly returns. A fey hamburger waitress occasionally does an Indian buffalo mask and imagines herself a quadriplegic. The old cane-tapping landlady has a weakness for her lovely raffish black neighbour, a quixotic showman constantly failing with his promotion of spectacles, sport and baseball cheerleaders.

The piece is a rag-bag of theatrical Americana: nostalgic yearning for innocence in a dusty Sam Shepard setting; whimsy from Christopher Durang; small town quirkiness from Beth Henley; a plucky little man (Billy), whose mixture of impulsiveness and sturdy idealism recalls Kirov in *Camino Real*. Another Tennessee

MARTIN HOYLE

CONCERT

Minimalism old and new

Fretwork Christ Church Spitalfields

nuances of sonority so ably demonstrated by Fretwork in the rest of their programme were put to good use by Nyman, who in earlier years regularly used instruments of this period.

Sometimes, in truth, the nuances are not so subtle. Nyman tends to apply his colour and fill in his details with a broad brush. But his setting of this self-eulogy of a Sumerian goddess gave the

BARRY MILLINGTON

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Last of the song and dance men

Is Tommy Tune, the hooper king of Broadway, galloping to the rescue of London's ailing West End? Matt Wolf met the director/choreographer as he prepared his all-dancing spectacular, *Grand Hotel*, for its long delayed London opening

Tommy Tune does not walk, he floats. In this instance, he floats into JB's Restaurant in Temple, Arizona. The previous night his star turn in a touring revival of *Eye for the Tiger* had been greeted with a standing ovation. At the age of 53, Tune still projects a youthful buoyancy, deriving perhaps from an awareness that he is the last of a breed. He is a song-and-dance man — a true theatre performer, not a television or Hollywood import. He also happens to be the most powerful director/choreographer in America, and hence the world.

Tune has looked on aghast as one colleague after another — Gower Champion, Bob Fosse, Michael Bennett, Ron Field — died, often from AIDS. Jerome Robbins lives on, but no longer directs for the theatre, except to sage his monument to himself, *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*. Other big directors of musicals — Hal Prince and Jerry Zaks in America, Trevor Nunn and Nicholas Hytner in England — rely on outside choreographers or choose shows not overly concerned with dance.

Tune is different. A one-time hooper turned one-man industry. At six foot six, he literally stands apart. He is also a Tony Award fixture, having won nine in 20 years, four in the last two. Broadway is Tune's kingdom; in Britain, by contrast, he has had mixed success. His Broadway hit *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* flopped at Drury Lane in 1981, and he remains best known here from distant memories of Ken Russell's film *The Boyfriend*, starring his once close friend, Twiggy. Now, with exquisite timing, Tune is venturing into the West End — at a time when show after show is closing — with the long-delayed *Grand Hotel*, his 1989 adaptation of the Vicki Baum novel that spawned the famous Garbo film.

"It's my art piece," Tune smiles. He was attracted, he says, by the form of the show, telling several stories simultaneously. "It's like an art colony, and you've got to keep it swirling, with constant motion and constant music. What I didn't want was the big staircase coming in and the big bedroom rising up from beneath the stage. I didn't want to

do the machinery of it." The result is a work actively choreographed throughout, with few conventional Broadway showstoppers. Some of today's musicals are through-sung: *Grand Hotel* is through-danced.

Its English incarnation has not been easy. The show was originally due to open here last September. Then, the producers decided against a British production so as to save money, and heighten cachet, or strange thing that goes around him, but when he's working and becomes protective, he comes right back to earth. Frank Lazarus, the actor/composer whose *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine* won Tune's first Tony for choreography in 1980, remembers him "surround himself with this mystique...but he's actually a five foot eighteen steel girder."

"I did not set out to do this: I set out to dance in the chorus of a Broadway show," says Tune. "Everything else just happened. I'm not being falsely coy or modest; that's just the truth. If I'm the last of a breed of anything, I'm the last of the song-and-dance men, because people aren't training to do that. It's easier to go on TV, so why should you train to master the art of singing and dancing and have it come across as nothing?"

Tune's trump card, though, has been to make his work as a director/choreographer as seamless as his performing. The *New York Times* critic Frank Rich once described Tune as "a man who could create rainbows in a desert," which is virtually what he did during the increasingly parched environment of the American musical in the 1980s.

His primary gifts lie in visuals and movements. And glamour, too. It was Tune who decided on the tiled spa setting for his 1982 hit *Nine*, on which were draped 21 women and Raul Julia's Guido, the lone adult male. Last year's *The Will Rogers Follies* remains at core an extended homily, but that is forgotten amid the floating illuminated staircase, disembodied feet and lasso-wielding chorines — all typical Tune touches.

With *Grand Hotel*, Tune rescued from oblivion a show, then called *At the Grand*, that had an unsuccessful California tryout in 1958. He insisted on re-setting it not in Italy but in Baum's original Berlin, and came up with the centre-stage revolving door which is the musical's visual metaphor. "I know how a show should move," he says. "I don't like a show that's stillborn, that keeps starting over with each scene. You use each scene as a launchpad for the next."

He has a remarkable knack, too, of producing the right show at the

right time. The day of the third New York preview of *Grand Hotel*, the Berlin Wall came down. Then, 18 months later, *The Will Rogers Follies* tapped into the feel-good zeitgeist of George Bush's America, beating the contrastingly cynical *Miss Saigon* to win six Tonys.

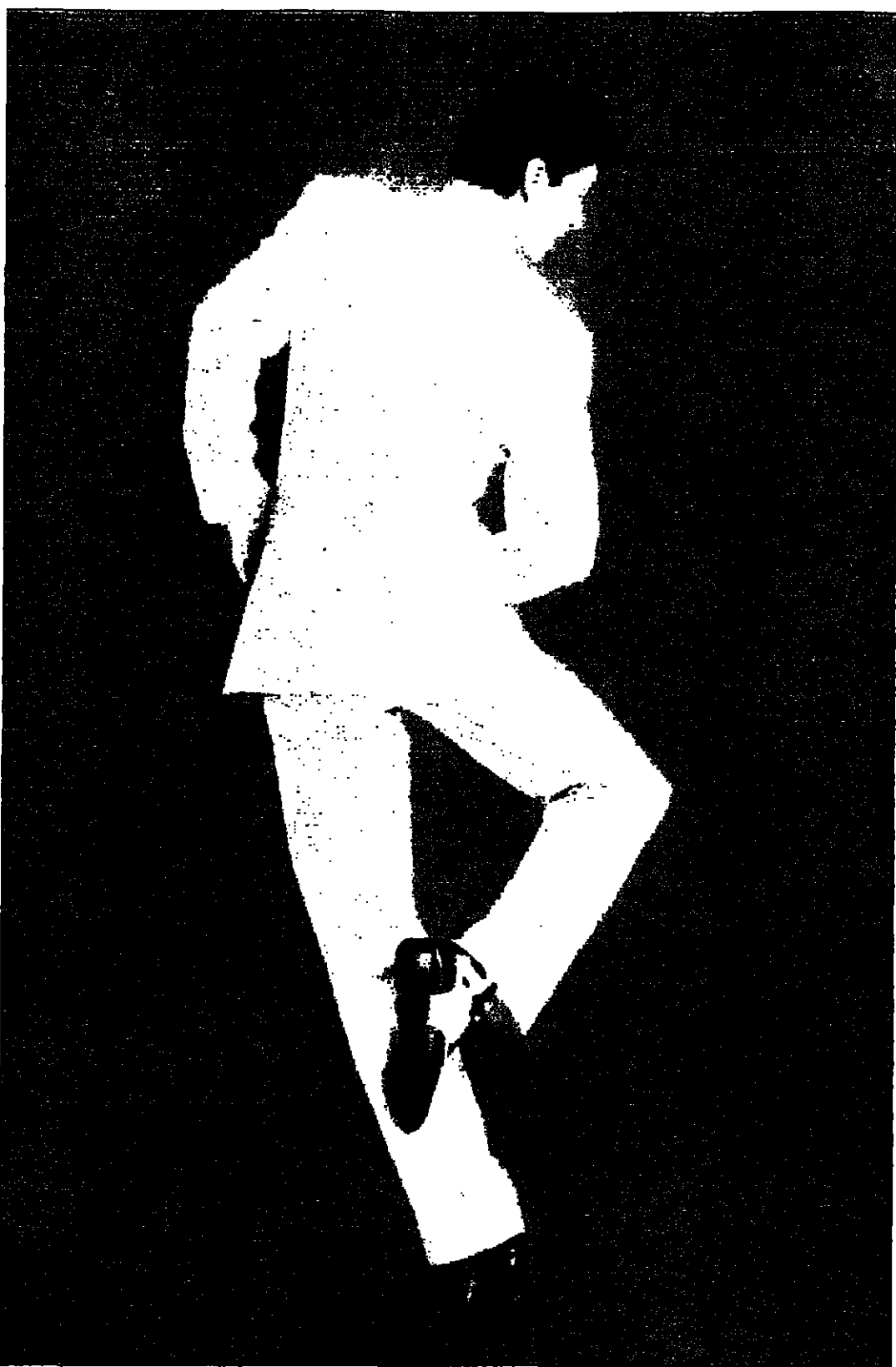
His agency, he says, is pressing back to New York, playing a him more toward film (the musical *La Cage aux Folles* is a possibility), but Tune retains the scepticism of one plucked from the *How Now*

right time. The day of the third New York preview of *Grand Hotel*, the Berlin Wall came down. Then, 18 months later, *The Will Rogers Follies* tapped into the feel-good zeitgeist of George Bush's America, beating the contrastingly cynical *Miss Saigon* to win six Tonys.

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Tune: still projecting youthful buoyancy at 53



"I did not set out to do this: I set out to dance in the chorus of a Broadway show," says Tune

TELEVISION REVIEW

Port Stanley on a false passport

There was shooting and even a death. There was a brief conversation about the respective claims of Argentina and Britain to the Falklands. But much of the time the impression given by *An Ungentlemanly Act*, the play shown on BBC2 on Saturday, was that General Galtieri's troops had blundered into an Ealing comedy. They had, so to speak, landed in a rural Fimble without their passports.

Women bumbled about with dogs. The local publican bullied his customers. A farmer practised golf among the sheep. The governor, Rex Hunt, sported his plumes in his official red London taxi. Not so much as a periscope, sir, remarked a bored Royal Marine as he looked at what was, as it happens, a raised Argentinian periscope.

The arrival of commandos, followed by heavy armour, did not altogether alter the tone. The chaps in the radio station played 'Mantovani and 'Strangers in the Night'. A kindly housewife brought a nice cuppa across the garden to soldiers watching a tank crawl round the corner. Bullets whizzed past a grunted labourer who, carrying a white flag on a stick, hurried down the road to be on time for his



Sang froid: Ian Richardson and the real Rex Hunt

job. Surely Terry-Thomas would arrive in a biplane and rout the plunders with clipped yelps of "You frightful shower."

That was hardly necessary, since Ian Richardson was *in situ*, bringing what has become his customary sang froid to the role of Rex Hunt. "Shoot them" was his genial response to the news that Argentinians were outside the local drill hall, a command altered to a mildly exasperated "Well, shoot some of them" when he was told they were gathering en masse and armed to the

teeth. Who would believe that modern Whitehall still produced the sort of colonial governor who could send his deputy out to negotiate with a white flag tied to an umbrella, gently adding "Don't lose this broly, I paid the earth for it in Piccadilly"? Well, if we were to credit Richardson and his author, Stuart Urban, it did exactly that just ten years ago.

Not that Urban, who also directed, patronised the Falklanders and their leader. There was a lot of unpretentious heroism: Bob Peck's gritty, doughty marine com-

mander readying his vastly outnumbered troops for what they all believed was certain death; the troops defying gunfire in an attempt to rescue a badly injured Argentinian; the radio announcer, a flustered wimp in glasses, refusing to stop broadcasting even with a pistol held to his head.

The Falklanders who cooperated in the play's making may not be altogether thrilled by the result. An off-hand xenophobia was often apparent. One local hero, Hunt's podgy factotum, seemed to think he had been given a starring role in *Zulu*, fighting what he called "the fuzziwuzzies". Again, why was so much made of the tipping habits of Rosemary Leach, playing Hunt's wife?

The mini-battles were well enough staged, though the geography of the campaign itself was sadly unclear. But that seemed no more than a quibble by the time the invasion and the play reached their end. Down came the Union Jack, and up went the Argentinian flag, only to topple instantly to the ground. It was a sign and symbol of events to come — and, yet again, very Ealing comedy.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

FESTIVAL

Eastern Baroque

keyboard but from the double bass, by Andrzej Mysinski.

The first half of the group's programme flew the flag for Poland. There were two pieces by the much travelled early 17th-century composer Adam Jarzebski, an effervescent dance called *Tamburetta* and a canzona-like work called *Chromatica*. The latter was an impressive work which, like his contemporary Marcin Mielczewski's *Canzona Prima*, could stand comparison with anything written elsewhere in Europe at the time.

Later by half a century, Stanislaw Sylwester Szarzyński's D major Violin Sonata contained all the expressiveness the programme note promised. Maciej Radziwiłł's

Divertimento in D was all rococo elegance and delicacy. The players gave a poised, lightly articulated performance, while for their evocative, sometimes provocative, account of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, they summoned a generous measure of fiery energy without sacrificing their considerable discipline. Zyta Piechowska-Andrzejewska was the confident, colourful soloist.

Two nights later the festival played host to the *Rekonsolidacja Ensemble*, formed after chance meetings last year between British baroque specialists and their counterparts in the former Soviet Union. What I heard confirmed that a vital chemistry exists be-

tween these musicians, who on this occasion were directed from the harpsichord by Nicholas Kraemer.

Nikolai Nasonov, playing a large-bore wooden transverse instrument, was excellent in a Flute Concerto by the early 18th-century Swedish composer Johan Joachim Agrell, though the violinist Vladimir Shuliakovsky gave a slightly less certain reading of a sonata by Giovanni Verocai. Together with Andrew Manze, however, Shuliakovsky relished the idiomatic challenge of Ivan Khandozhkin's infectious, if musically slight, Variations on traditional Russian folksongs, from the other end of the 18th century, while in a D major concerto by Boccherini Ivan Monighetti's cello playing, at once precise and free, revealed an artist of abundant gifts.

STEPHEN PETTITT

ARTS BRIEF

Barber shaved

PARISIANS must wait a little longer to see what the Italian satirical playwright Dario Fo makes of *The Barber of Seville*. His production of the Rossini opera was to have transferred from the Netherlands Opera to Paris last week. But a strike at the Paris Opera led to performances of *The Barber* and *The Marriage of Figaro* being lost. The strike, after a year-long dispute, has disrupted the company's return to its old home, the Palais Garnier. Fo's interpretation of Rossini has been postponed to June 29.

Team work

IF a new musical called *The Challenge* fails to produce any hummable tunes, it will not be through lack of willing hands. No fewer than 27 authors are credited for the show, which has its premiere at the Shaw Theatre in London on July 19. They are members of Mercury Workshop, founded to nurture new musical theatre in Britain. Among those collaborating on *The Challenge* (based on Greek legends) will be Charles Hart (Lloyd Webber's lyricist), Howard Goodall (composer for the Melvyn Bragg television drama, *A Time to Dance*), and 11 former students of Stephen Sondheim's masterclasses at Oxford in 1990. Sondheim himself is the patron of the Mercury Workshop, and has provided "musical motifs" for *The Challenge*.

Caro honoured

SIR Anthony Caro is 15 million yen richer (approximately £60,000) after the announcement of this year's Praemium Imperiale Prizes — the so-called "Nobel Prizes of the arts". The awards, founded in 1987 to mark the centenary of the Japan Art Association, go annually to leading figures in different disciplines. Besides the British sculptor, this year's recipients are the French painter Pierre Soulages, American architect Frank Gehry, Russian composer Alfred Schnittke and Japanese film director Akira Kurosawa.

Last chance...

PAUL SCOFIELD's lugubrious voice denounces a rotten England for the last time as Shaw's *Heartbreak House* ends its run at the Haymarket. As its author admitted, it is a flawed masterpiece — and Trevor Nunn's production takes over three hours to reach its explosive climax — but the cast has star quality: Vanessa Redgrave in top form, Felicity Kendal and Daniel Massey both splendid, and excellence all the way to Joe Melia's paradoxical burglar. Ends Saturday (071-930 8800).

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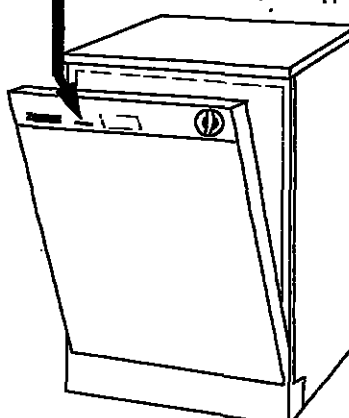
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Shrinking from psychiatry

Dr Thomas Szasz
does not believe
that drug addiction
or mental illness
are diseases at all.
Will Self meets the
libertarian — and
courageous —
thinker

Ross Perot was talking to CBS News. "Raisin' taxes", he drawled, "is like giving a cocaine addict maw co-caine." I knew I was in the right place. Outside the streets wailed in the New York night, while on the flickering screen the presidential hopeful defined the collective American psyche in terms of obsession and compulsion.

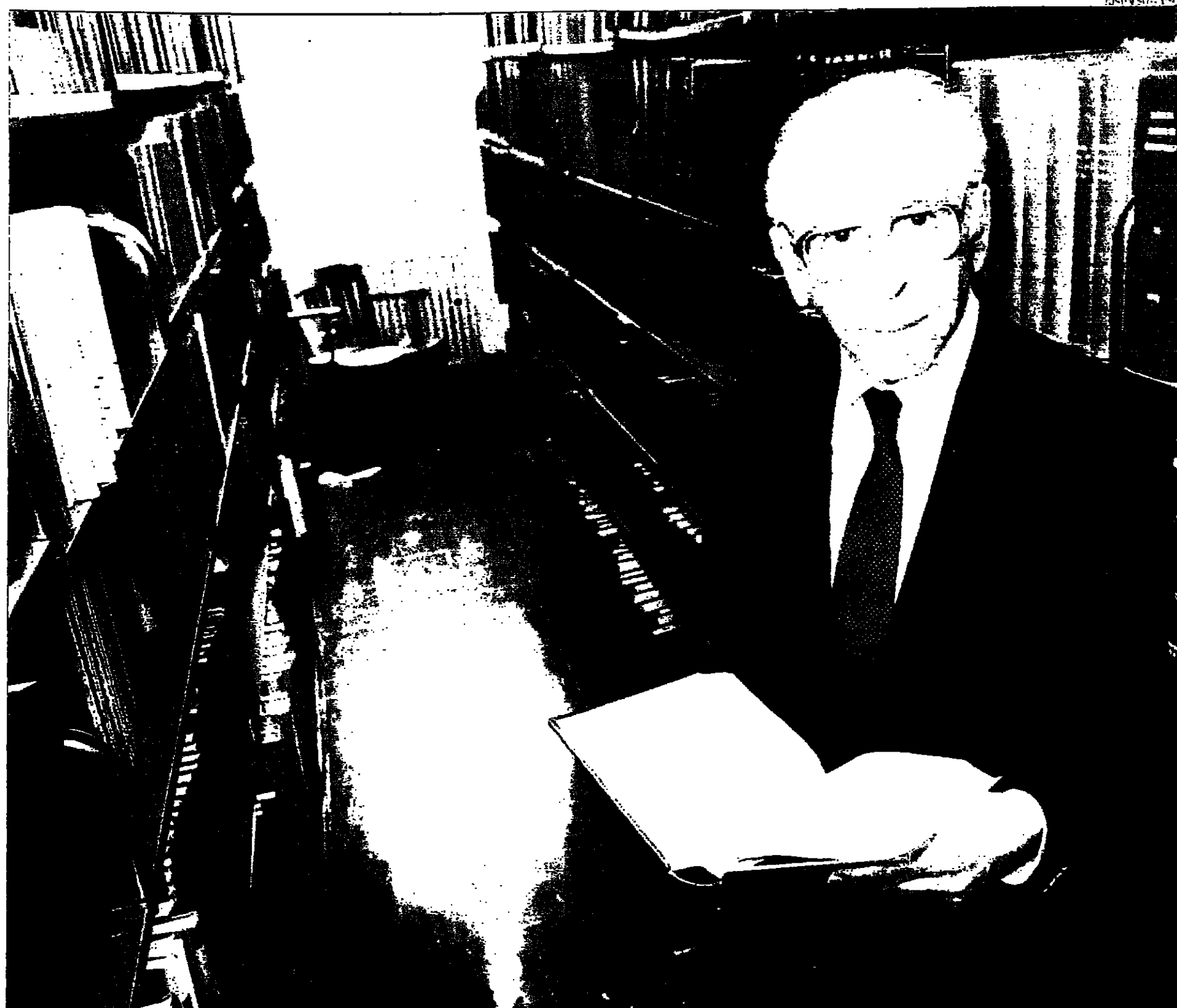
When I walked out of my midtown Manhattan hotel the following morning, the discarded crack vials crunched like gravel under the soles of my shoes. I was on my way to interview Dr Thomas Szasz, the maverick "anti-psychiatric" thinker who advocates the legalisation of all drugs and puts forward the radical view that both drug addiction and mental illness are not diseases at all.

By noon I was sitting with Dr Szasz in his immaculately neat office at the New York University Medical Centre in Syracuse. I started off by asking him what he felt about R.D. Laing, who had put forward theories similar to Dr Szasz's, and then, paradoxically, had himself suffered a mental breakdown.

"There are no second acts in academic notoriety," said Dr Szasz. Paraphrasing Gore Vidal is very much Dr Szasz's style. "Laing agreed with me that there is no mental illness but claimed to have a cure for schizophrenia. Perhaps that's something like the Greek idea of hubris. I think that in many ways what happened to Laing... obviously there is a problem with self honesty."

A small, neat man, who still has a pronounced Hungarian accent after 50 years living in the United States, Dr Szasz could never be accused of courting popularity for its own sake. On the contrary his radical views on mental illness and drug addiction have been presented with great consistency and courage in the twenty-or-more books he has published since the 1950s. And Dr Szasz has stuck to his guns despite public vilification and professional skulduggery.

In his latest book *Our Right to Drugs: The Case for a Free Market* Dr Szasz returns to themes he first explored in his ground-breaking work *Ceremonial Chemistry*, published in 1974. Put succinctly, Dr Szasz holds that we have substituted scientism for morality and allowed a category error to permeate our thinking about mental illnesses and other "diseases" such as drug addiction, alcoholism, anorexia and obesity. Szasz sees their current "pathological" status as the



Radical rumination: Dr Szasz's views — "involuntarily mental hospitalisation at taxpayers' expense is really a kind of poor relief" — have earned him enemies

inevitable result of a society that is unprepared to accept the hard work involved in personal responsibility. During our conversation he quoted Burke approvingly: "Men are qualified for civil liberty in exact proportion to their disposition to put moral chains on their own appetites..."

"You can see when we allow doctors to take over the area of communal life that is concerned with how we communicate and how we morally judge, we open a Pandora's box. I'm not suggesting that there is a conscious conspiracy, it's rather a collective urge, a sort of Puritan desire to be smacked with one of Mummy State's hands, while being stroked with the other."

But Dr Szasz is not just a conventional libertarian philosopher, and his case for the complete legalisation of all drugs rests as much on his sophisticated analysis of the language of medicine, and

his careful reading of social mores as it does on appeals to individual liberty.

"The whole area is full of absurdities," he says. "On the one hand if you can drink and drive, you can be jailed. But on the other hand you can take a prescribed drug like Halcion, murder someone, and get acquitted. You can carry a loaded gun, but not a loaded syringe. It's almost as if we want to be punished in this way, deprived of our rights and turned into adult children. Or take the smoking debate. People forget the issue of private property. If I own a restaurant and wish to have people smoke in it — it's my own affair. No one has to come there."

Dr Szasz's arguments rest, he

'Putting drug addicts in treatment centres is somewhat like confining people with TB together and then getting them to cough over one another'

says, "on firmly held, rather traditional values. I am not conventionally religious, but I do think that personal responsibility is enormously important." Had he ever taken drugs himself? "Oh, no, never. Partly because they don't really interest me, but more importantly because of their legal status. I just couldn't afford to give any ammunition to my critics."

In 1962 he published *The Myth*

of *Mental Illness* in which he argued the symptoms of mental illness are not those of a disease but merely examples of behaviour that is generally disapproved of. Following this there were attempts by members of the American Psychiatric Association to have Dr Szasz removed from his post. "They made mistakes," he said, "and I was lucky. They actually wrote a letter to the university saying that I was 'unfit to hold the chair in psychiatry' because of that book. Imagine that! They tried to act as if the First Amendment didn't exist. Such foolishness. That's why censorship is a much better concept for the understanding of drug prohibition than any 'disease model'."

Certainly, by arguing that state-run drug programmes are nothing but "legalised drug peddling" and that the war on drugs is not only a waste of time, but also positively pernicious, Dr Szasz was bound to earn himself enemies. "But it is ridiculous," he says. "Putting drug addicts in treatment centres is somewhat like confining people with tuberculosis together and then getting them to cough over one another."

But what about the actual suffering involved in mental illness and drug addiction, surely Dr Szasz couldn't gainsay that? What would he have felt like if one of his two daughters had been a drug addict or a schizophrenic? Wouldn't it have made him alter his views?

"Well, you know a lot of people ask me that question. I have been fortunate. But, you know, what is the impulse to ask these questions? Surely it's an attempt to make me

look bad... It's really compassion-mongering, trying to adopt the high moral ground of someone else's suffering. It's analogous to the way people raise money for charity, 'give us your money for people starving in the Third World', they say. But of course they live well using other people's money to indulge their own altruism."

"Of course I cannot imagine forcing my daughters to be hospitalised. To the extent that I style myself an 'anti-psychiatrist' it is only the involuntary type of psychiatry that I mean."

So what about psychotherapy, where the individual actively seeks help? "Well, I don't call what I do 'psychotherapy'. I just call it talking to people. If I can help them, then that's good, but I hope I never fall into the mistake of believing that I can help people because of my professional status."

According to Szaszian philosophy, self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous would appear to be the most pernicious and misguided of "therapies". But at least they have the honesty to give their theories an overtly religious character.

Did he agree? "I suppose so. If people think that they can be helped by these things, that's their own affair. Just as it's their own affair if they want to belong to a religion or take a certain drug. But as far as I am concerned they are all equally stupid. It's just a case of *chacun à son goût*."

But there is an increasing amount of research that seems to show that drug addiction and alcoholism may be genetically inherited. Wouldn't this seem to fly in the face of his theories? "No, not really. I mean I'm not competent to judge this evidence, but even if a person does have a disposition to react unfavourably to a drug, all his susceptibility does is to enlarge his responsibility to avoid it."

"Really all of this preoccupation with medical care of one kind and another, as a political and social issue, is a displacement. Instead of giving the people bread and circuses, politicians give them wars against diseases and drugs and all kinds of therapies. If you look at it carefully you will see that involuntarily mental hospitalisation at taxpayers' expense is really a kind of poor relief."

Dr Szasz is no faddist or crank, nor a 1960s maverick who has had his day. Indeed he said that he had been hardly aware of the counter-cultural antics of the Leuines and Hoffmans. Rather, the key to Dr Szasz comes from his cry early on in our discussion when I touched upon the tension in America between the collectivism of public health laws and the individualism of capitalism. "But it's all in De Taguerville," exclaimed Dr Szasz. "He understood this and wrote about it 150 years ago..."

And that is why I predict that Dr Szasz's work and thought, prompted by the publication of his new book, will once again come to the fore: he takes the long view.

● Our Right to Drugs: The Case for a Free Market by Dr Thomas Szasz, £15.95 from Praeger Publishers. Will Self's book *Stamping out Reality: A Discourse on Drugs and Society* will be published by Macmillan in 1993

Who's opting out?



This Friday The TES offers a tactical guide for schools considering grant-maintained status and examines why many are holding back.

TES

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Follow your nose to a garden

Instead of
peering over the
wall, you can
walk up other
people's paths

There is something innately romantic. Penny Snell says, about a garden rake. But then, she "adores" garden tools in general — rhubarb forcers, wheelbarrows... "they've all got great charm."

Mrs Snell is not the sort of woman you would expect to find creeping about potting sheds — she seems far too elegant — but, as the London organiser of the National Gardens Scheme, she spends most of her free time diving into the herbaceous borders of complete strangers. "London is so frustrating," she says. "You can't really peer over walls. I have to wait for a recommendation and then I can go in and have a good old nose about."

Avid gardeners living outside the capital are also susceptible to a visit from Mrs Snell's brigade: the scheme has organisers throughout the country, all bent on finding the most impressive private gardens in their region, which might open on one, two or more days a year for the benefit of the general public.

A charity founded in 1927, the scheme now has more than 2,700 private gardens on its books, and exists as an opportunity for ordinary garden enthusiasts to bypass the glories of formal landscapes, such as Hampton Court or Cliveden, and get into the back gardens of other amateurs.



Blooming visitors at Sally Tamplin's garden, where hundreds may show up

Sue Corfe's back patch at Rock Farm in Kent, for example, is a cornucopia: banks of foxgloves, lupins, delphiniums and hollyhocks give way to rows of poppies and fuschia surrounding a luscious lawn, which in turn leads to two ponds, swamped with lilies.

Mrs Corfe opens her garden every Saturday and Wednesday from May through to July: twice a week, a band of complete strangers turns up and pays £1 for the privilege of poring over her honeysuckle and marvelling at the creaminess of her climbing roses.

For a woman who nightly parades her garden, armed with the means to destroy any insect that might threaten its perfection, Mrs Corfe is fairly relaxed about the prospect of the great British public picking about in her bushes. "Sometimes I do find whole

plants pulled up — a primula was removed once — but this rarely happens. I do remember being horribly nervous on the first opening, but since then it's been fine."

Clearly, first openings can wrack the nerves of even the steadiest types. "I must admit, I am a bit apprehensive," says John Newton, a child psychiatrist, whose tiny London garden was about twenty sizes smaller, though no less spectacular, than Mrs Corfe's. "I've given my lawn a once-over, and checked out the weeds." Suddenly, the buzzer rings. "Oh help, the first visitor," Dr Newton says. "I haven't got my proper clothes on..."

He unlocks the door: a single, elderly woman in a startlingly bright pink mac charges past as if she has been going to the scheme all her

life. Which, of course, she has. "I love other people's gardens," she says, as Dr Newton flees into the house to change. "I have to come early because I spend every Sunday afternoon gambling... Oh, just look at that climbing rose."

Dr Newton reappears in a

lime-green number. Minutes later, the garden is full of people, swarming about, quizzing an increasingly delighted Dr Newton on every aspect. "Have you had any trouble with lily beetle?" asks an elderly woman anxiously. Another asks if she can house her lonely goldfish in his pond.

Meanwhile, 300 yards away, Sally Tamplin is calmly dealing with the hundred or so visitors to her beautiful back garden. The local church has provided a vast array of cakes, and people are walking around her lawn, eating, and clutching the yellow Gardens Scheme guide book. "The power of the book is amazing," Ms Tamplin says. "You never know if you will get 80, or 280 people."

Mrs Snell says that, to qualify, suitable gardens should have "about 40 minutes' worth of interest in them". Window boxes do not count: although, according to her, there is a "wonderful set of steps going down to a basement in Belgravia. You can't just have a nice green patch. It's not good enough. If people have taken the trouble to get in their car, and pay to see a garden, they jolly well complain if it isn't up to standard."

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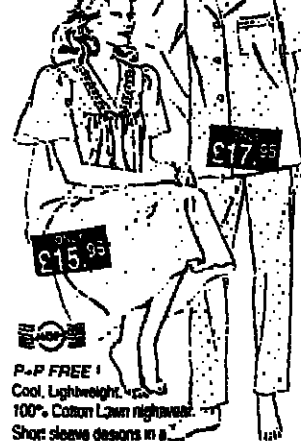
● To enter your garden for the National Gardens Scheme, write with details to your county organiser, whose name will be available at the head office at Hatchlands Park (telephone: 0483 211535). To find gardens open in your area, consult the yellow book, *Gardens of England and Wales* open to the public (or *Gardens of Scotland*) from garden centres, WH Smith or the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley.

ROSIE MILLARD
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Golf in Wellington's footsteps

Mitchell Platts
chronicles a
golfing invasion
across the Channel



THE first time I played golf in France was in 1976. To the enthusiastic golfer, it was like being an art collector stumbling across a Monet. It was a joy. I recall two men, dressed in baggy cords, tackling along a fairway; otherwise I, and my two companions, had the course at Harelletot to ourselves.

In those days, the French might have thought nothing of crossing the Channel to shop at Marks & Spencer but the British lacked the initiative to take the ferry to Boulogne, ten miles from Harelletot, for a round of golf. Things have changed. On June 23, Prince Edward will be at Harelletot for the formal opening of the Hotel du Parc, designed as much for visiting golfers as for anybody else. His presence reflects the popularity the game now enjoys from Paris to Perpignan, Bordeaux to Besançon.

In 1976 the number of registered golfers in France was less than 30,000. Today the figure is nearly 300,000. The game in France started on a summer's day in 1814, when two officers in one of the Duke of Wellington's Scottish regiments sailed to lay out a rough golf course at Pau, in the foothills of the Pyrenees, between battles with Napoleon in the peninsular campaign.

In 1856 the Duke of Hamilton, assisted by a few of his friends, established a club at Pau. At the time golf was hardly known outside Scotland.

The Victorian entrepreneurs and empire-builders from Britain went on to build courses not only in Africa and India but also elsewhere in France and Spain. So it is not surprising that the well-heeled Frenchman initially regarded golf as an opportunity to rub shoulders with the aristocracy at sophisticated clubs.

Tourism in recent years has helped to break down such elitism. Four years ago the Fédération Française de Golf (FFG) met the ministry of tourism to formulate a plan. Their aim was to exploit the potential of golf. They took a census among existing clubs, most of which were private, to test their reaction to the prospect of opening the tees to the tourists. More than half the clubs said yes, and the Channel ports made ready for an invasion.

Philippe Gay, a tourism official in Normandy, pointed out that in three years the Calvados region went from two clubs to 11, some of which have 27 holes. In total, France had 150 courses in 1981; today it boasts 500.

The FFG has championed the cause of youth, encouraging "players in short trousers" in the search for a golfer capable of doing for France what Severiano Ballesteros has for Spain. In 1997 the Ryder Cup, the biennial match between Europe and the United States, is expected to be held in mainland Europe for the first time and Spain is favourite to be host. There are those who would say that France, with its greater golf-playing population, has stronger claims.



Continental converts: a tournament in St Nom La Breche — the number of French golfers has risen tenfold since 1976

To assist the development of golf, the FFG launched *Plan Vert*, aimed at loosening the elitism of the game in France and making it more democratic through the large-scale development of public courses. Even so, *Plan Vert* was also regarded as a job and revenue creator, so the importance to France of the tourist cannot be underestimated. France has a record of taking a sport by the scruff of the neck. It has shown the

rest of the Alps the way in skiing, and it seems that since the tennis boom began 20 years ago every village in France has built a floodlit court.

Most of the new golf clubs will have difficulty in attracting members because the French mostly prefer to pay and play rather than part with an annual subscription. It is estimated that the bigger, smarter clubs will each need to take 25,000 green fees every year to break even.

A large proportion of the green fees sold in France will be to British tourists. France, with its multifarious attractions, has always been a favourite for the adventurous motorist, and the FFG, aware of this, set out its stall accordingly. It studied methods of golf course management at municipal courses, country clubs and private clubs in Britain.

Yet what has tested the British golfer's patience most is the pace of

play in France. It is not unusual to confront a mixed and meandering foursome; golf in France is very much a family game. A shout of "Fore!" is more than likely to be answered with a gesture that has little to do with inviting you to play through. Better to be patient and think of the 19th hole and a glass or two and a meal.

There are some real gastronomic delights while golfing in France. Many clubs offer anything from *croque monsieur* to very acceptable *plats du jour* at a price to satisfy the pocket as well as the palate. The 99FFr menu survives with three courses and half a litre of wine to anaesthetise you against the next four-and-a-half-hour round.

The growth of the game is easy to detect. There might not yet be too many designer swings on the fairways but the shops in the towns are bursting with a veritable cornucopia of golf designer labels.

You will still see the French teeing-off on some courses in jeans — the dress etiquette of British clubs has not been accepted everywhere — but the name on the back pocket is likely to be Lacoste or Lapidus or Saint Laurent. Golfing gear is permitted in most clubhouses.

You can be playing at Harelletot within 60 minutes of driving off the ferry. The hardy soul will not mind teeing-up there, or at any one of the many splendid courses in Normandy, Brittany or the Paris area.

In the summer holidays, most courses become unplayable lies, so the best advice is to book tee-times through a reputable company and to go midweek in any month, other than July or August.

The four-course feast that suits everybody's taste

GAZE out on to the 18th hole of L'Albatros course at Le Golf National and picture how Seve or Woosie would play it. A one- or two-iron off the tee for safety, an eight-iron to the island green and a 20ft putt for eagle.

Reality, for the 19-handicapper, is a dream shattered. Three lost balls, a double-figure tally and a grim concession of defeat on a hole from hell. L'Albatros is at St Quentin, 18 miles south-west of Paris. The 18-hole Eagle and nine-hole Birdie courses are woven into the undulating landscape.

The French Open will be staged on L'Albatros for the second successive year from June 25 to 28. A pleasing, teasing challenge for the professional: a mix of pain and pleasure in the £20-a-day fee-paying amateur.

Less taxing is the Golf des Yvelines at nearby Houdan. Les Chênes, a 6,940-yard par 72 designed by the American Bill Baker, winds its way in and out of woodland, tempting the adventurous and crucifying the careless.

The Château de la Courbe, a typically French clubhouse of character and distinction, boasts fine cuisine and a relaxed atmosphere in which to unwind and recall the 2ft putt that got away. Family and friends are welcome. Dress regulations are almost non-existent.

Rookie players are even encouraged to drive 220 yards over the ornamental pond in front of the bar, with a bottle of champagne as the prize for success. In England this would have the brigadier spluttering into his pink gin.

The Hôtel du Golf in Deauville, Normandy, is equally provocative: a sight of splendour on the crest of the hill overlooking the town. Rooms at £100 a night, though cheaper in a golf package, deliver the promised luxury and sophistication. Horse racing, polo and casinos offer alternative entertainment in Deauville and, after 18 holes over the hotel's Rouge et Blanc course, a change of sport may help to rehabilitate a tormented mind.

On the 4th, the slickest of surfaces twists and turns with fiendish glee: the 16th slopes away towards the racetrack, demanding three putts and accepting four, sometimes five. France's very own Augusta.

Golf Club du Champ de Bataille, 87 miles from Paris, near Le Neubourg, provides another contrast in French course construction. Nestling in 150 acres of forest and valleys, it hugs the contours and devours any shot remotely off target. Charm oozes in abundance. From the magnificent château, built during the reign of Louis XIV, to the par three 16th, which traverses a monstrous ravine and alights in a mass of rhododendrons to the roving ball-boy surreptitiously selling his pick-ups from the foliage. All for £20 a day.

Le Golf National, Golf des Yvelines, the Hôtel du Golf and Golf Club du Champ de Bataille. A veritable four-course feast.

This trip was organised by the French Government Tourist Office in conjunction with the Fédération Française de Golf, Maison de la France, France Golf International and Air France.

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The winners of today's competition and their partners will be flown by T.A.T. European Airlines, the major French independent airline, to Charles de Gaulle Airport, where the airline operates from uncongested, modern facilities at Terminal 2B. On-board complimentary drinks and a light snack will be served with a copy of *The Times*.

In Paris you and your partner will stay for two nights in a Connoisseur executive guest room at the new £20 million four-star Hotel Copthorne Charles de Gaulle, which opened this week, located in Roissy, adjacent to the major air transport hub. The hotel has a pool, solarium, fitness centre, sauna, Turkish bath and whirlpool. Outdoor activities include pigeon shooting, tennis and mini-golf, and the hotel is conveniently located for attractions such as Euro Disney, Parc Asterix, and Villepinte Expo Centre.

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Luxury: the Hotel Copthorne Charles de Gaulle

TO ENTER simply answer the three questions below and telephone our competition line on 0891 700 149 before midnight tonight. You will be asked to give your answers and to leave your name, address and telephone number. Calls cost 36p per minute at cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times. The winners will be selected at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight and notified by telephone tomorrow. The winners names will be published in *The Times* on Wednesday June 17.

THE QUESTIONS

1. What type of aircraft is used by T.A.T. European Airlines to operate its scheduled services between London Gatwick and Paris?
2. Who is the Patron Saint of Paris?
3. What is the accepted height of the Eiffel Tower?

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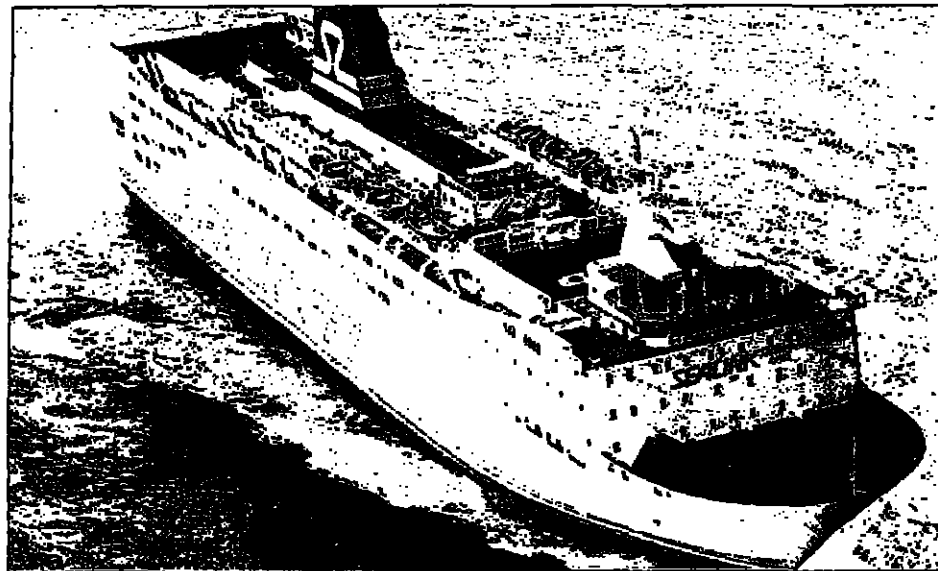
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NORTH WALES

In a two-page special report, Iola Smith explains why inward investment is flowing to North Wales, an area of contrasting cultures

How green is your money?

North Wales is a land of contrasts. Gwynedd in the west, which includes Anglesey and the majestic expanses of Snowdonia, is predominantly rural and Welsh-speaking, while in the east Clwyd is industrial, urbanised and mainly English-speaking, with Wrexham and Mold its main centres. Gwynedd is dependent on the service sector, but Clwyd draws much of its culture and population from north-west England, and has a strong manufacturing sector.

The differences are reflected in the politics of the two counties. Gwynedd has three of the four Plaid Cymru MPs, and there is a particular concern in its rural areas to protect the Welsh language. By contrast, Clwyd is predominantly Labour and, though it has its own rural areas, does not have a single Plaid Cymru MP.

The two counties are at one, however, in their desire to attract foreign investment to North Wales, and they have been having some success, showing that South Wales does not have all the cards. Clwyd has a tradition of attracting companies that want to relocate. Gwynedd has not been so successful in the past, but the opening of the Conway tunnel by the Queen last autumn and, more generally, the upgrading of the A55 coastal expressway, have transformed its prospects.

Jack Masterman, regional director for Clwyd at the Welsh Development Agency (WDA), speaks confidently. "We have the best inward investment record of any county in Wales," he says. "Between 1983 and 1991, 2,500 new projects were attracted, generating £1 billion worth of capital investment and creating 13,500 much-needed jobs. A further 2,700 existing jobs were safeguarded."

Among the newcomers are

Sharp and Brother, two Japanese companies that produce microwave ovens and typewriters respectively at Wrexham. Their compatriot, Toyota, has selected Deeside as the location for its £140-million European engine plant, which, when fully operational, will service the company's Derby assembly plant and manufacture engines for export to Japan.

Nordic and American companies have established a viable paper industry in the area. The Finnish-owned Shotton Paper Mill manufactures newsprint. Tetrapak of Sweden makes cartons in Wrexham, and Kimberly-Clark of the United States has a £72-million manufacturing operation at Flint.

The oil industry would help Clwyd recover from the coal and steel closures of the 1980s

These companies have created new markets for local suppliers. Toyota, for example, is seeking Welsh manufacturers to service its engine plant. They also raise Wales's profile overseas. Czechoslovakia, for instance, has inaugurated a technology transfer twinning scheme whereby technologies developed in Clwyd are being made available to Czech and Slovak businesses.

The recession is slowing the pace of relocation. However, Clwyd should not suffer financially, because the largest single investment ever made in Wales is being envisaged for the area. Hamilton, the American oil and gas exploration company, has found oil and

gas 15 miles off the North Wales coast, and estimates that there are 100 million barrels of oil and 800 billion cubic feet of gas in the field. It wants to spend £860 million on constructing an onshore oil and gas terminal at Talacre.

The plan is controversial, however. Though it is welcomed by Clwyd county council and the business community, it is being opposed by some local people on environmental grounds. A public enquiry is under way. Oil is a new industry for Clwyd, and one which would help the county recover from the coal and steel closures of the 1980s.

In general, Clwyd has benefited from infrastructure improvements. Turning the A55 North Wales coastal expressway into a dual carriageway has given businesses direct access to the markets of north-west England and the export potential of Manchester airport.

By contrast, Gwynedd lagged behind until recently in attracting inward investment. The county has a tradition of small businesses and self-employment, with 80 per cent of its firms employing 10 people or less. However, now that the Conway tunnel is open, the situation has changed.

"We've experienced a five-fold increase in investment since 1990," says Dafydd Hughes, the WDA's regional director for northwest Wales. "Last year we attracted 24 new businesses, bringing in £20 million of capital investment and creating 1,000 new jobs."

Among the newcomers in Gwynedd is Euro DPC, an American diagnostics company that is constructing its European headquarters at Glyn Rhonwy, a reclaimed quarry in Snowdonia. Euro DPC is one of an increasing number of companies that are placing quality of life at the top of their requirements when

selecting locations. Such firms find Gwynedd's environment attractive, and the landscape is one reason for a welcome increase in investment.

"Attracting more manufacturing jobs is essential if we are to keep young people in their local community," says Huw Thomas, chief executive of Gwynedd. "The survival of rural Wales depends upon sustainable, economically viable communities."

"Without work, communities stagnate, and while that is a problem affecting rural areas throughout the UK, the consequences are particularly worrying in Gwynedd because of the effect on the Welsh language. For as young Welsh speakers leave in search of work English holiday-home owners move in, changing the cultural ethos completely."

Gwynedd's commitment to the Welsh language has made the county a natural ally of the Irish republic, another European country with a minority Celtic language. The European Community has designated the Holyhead-Dublin sea crossing as its preferred route between Britain and Ireland, and Gwynedd is keen to benefit from the link by attracting Irish businesses. One Irish company, Golden Dairies, has already moved in. It has established a plant on Anglesey to make mozzarella cheese for pizzas.

The county is also working with the Irish government. Clwyd and Cheshire county council in an attempt to persuade British Rail to electrify the North Wales railway line. Development of Holyhead lies at the heart of the WDA's

and Gwynedd's strategy for regenerating Anglesey. The port has Wales's highest unemployment rate, 18 per cent, and a thorough refurbishment programme is necessary if it is to become an attractive stopping point for the two million visitors who use the Irish ferry every year.

Together with the county of Gwynedd, the borough of Anglesey and Stena, the Welsh-owned ferry company, the WDA has embarked this year on a £3 million refit of the town. Shopfronts are being redecorated, new retailers are being brought in, and the town centre is being pedestrianised and landscaped.

"The next stage is to raise its business and tourism profile," David Farnsworth, the

WDA's environment director, explains. "We're constructing a business park in the hope of attracting new Irish companies to the town and, in association with Stena, we want to turn surplus land on the west dock into a retail and tourism centre."

Work on making the A5 a dual carriageway across Anglesey is due to start in 1994, and should further enhance the town.

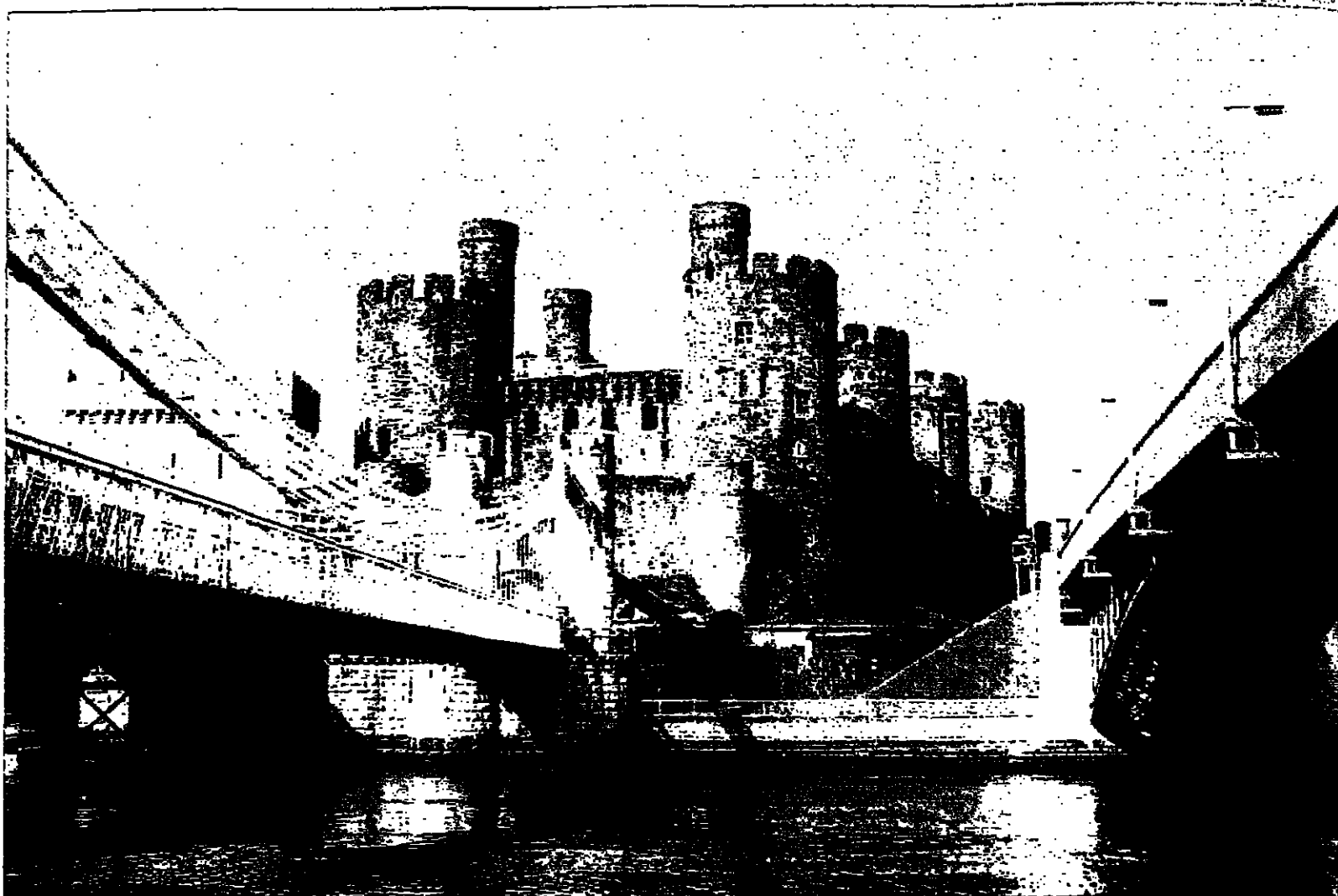
Rhyl, the Clwyd holiday resort, is another town experiencing a clean-up. As in Holyhead, the town centre is being refurbished and given pedestrian zones, and the WDA is working with British Rail on a plan to improve the station approach.

"We're also working with the Wales Tourist Board (WTB) and the Rhuddlan

borough council to enhance Rhyl's tourist attractions," Mr Farnsworth says. "This year we're spending £2 million on creating a children's village on the promenade and developing a marina in the harbour." Both projects should be completed by 1995.

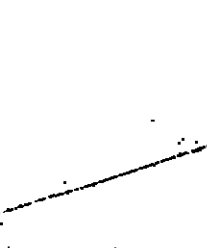
Redevelopment of Caernarvon, North Wales's most historic town, remains at an early stage. Plans are under way, however, to turn a derelict dock into a marina and to create moorings for the local fishing industry.

Gwynedd county council believes that opening up air links with Caernarvon will further enhance its tourism potential. So the local airport is being upgraded to regional airport status, and a regular passenger shuttle service to Cardiff is due to begin next spring.



Guarding the gate: the new tunnel under the river at Conway, in Gwynedd, and improved roads have opened up the area's business prospects


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Changeless landscape: the Snowdonia National Park is one of the areas whose unspoilt beauty will not be sacrificed to the visitors' purse

A welcome in the hillside

Tourism is North Wales's biggest industry, but development takes account of the natural environment

In a land of historic castles, spectacular scenery and popular beaches, it is hardly surprising that tourism is North Wales's largest industry. Three million tourists visit Gwynedd and Clwyd each year, contributing £364 million to the local economy.

The two counties have traditional seaside resorts such as Llandudno, which has a quarter of all Wales's hotel bedrooms, and Rhyl. However, they also have unique historical and scenic attractions, and while the Wales Tourist Board (WTB) wants to promote tourism, it regards safeguarding the region's heritage and landscape for the future as the priority.

Prys Edwards, the board's chairman, says that every tourism development is scrutinised to ensure that it is compatible with the landscape. "We must cherish our man-made and natural environment to ensure that we have a tourism industry tomorrow," he says.

"The size of development is crucial. I don't believe that anything on the scale of Euro Disney, for example, is appropriate for our culture or environment." Landscapes such as the Snowdonia National Park and the Vale of Clwyd must be protected, and so must the region's architectural heritage. The best known of North Wales's ancient monuments are Edward I's castles. Built in the 13th century to tame the Welsh, the fortresses of Flint,

Rhuddlan, Conway, Beaumaris and Caernarvon have since become internationally recognised tourist attractions. The most popular is Caernarvon, which can capitalise on its royal connection. The magnificent castle overlooking the Menai Strait was the birthplace of Edward I's son

largest town in North Wales. There the focus is on industry, and the local borough council, together with Clwyd and the WTB, is spending £8.5 million to create a heritage trail retracing its heavy industrial past. In contrast, the lifestyle of the gentry can be seen in Eiddig Hall, the local mansion.

University's tower is a replica of Wrexham parish church's 135 ft spire, traditionally regarded as one of the seven wonders of Wales.

As part of its campaign to enhance North Wales's man-made environment, the WTB is to spend £8.7 million over the next two years on improving the appearance of the area's tourist towns. This money will attract £80 million of support from the private sector. Mr Edwards says. Equally importantly, it will help to create a further 4,000 jobs in the tourist industry.

In Pwllheli and Towyn, on Clwyd's north coast, improvements are under way that will not damage the natural environment. Pwllheli's reclaimed harbour is being converted into a 400-berth marina. This will accommodate the Olympic yachting competitions if Manchester succeeds in winning the games in the year 2000, and it will significantly raise the town's profile internationally.

At Towyn the WTB is spending £200,000 on replacing the trees and plants washed away when the town was flooded two years ago.

Agritourism, in which farmers diversify into providing bed-and-breakfast accommodation and running pony treks or farm trails, is another

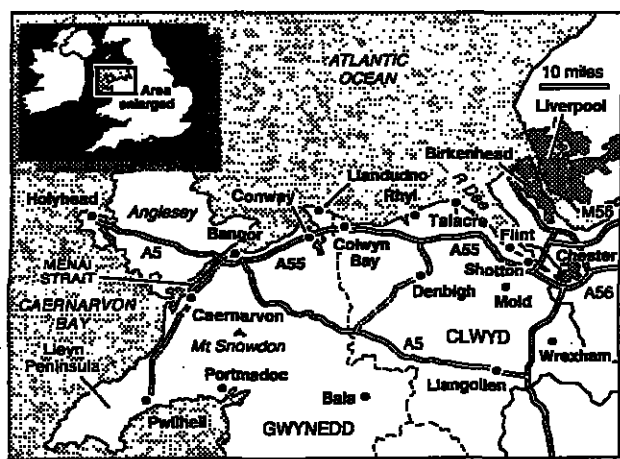
example of the tourist industry's aim of working in harmony with the environment. A fifth of North Wales's farmers have taken it up, and their progress is being monitored and emulated by the New Zealand tourist ministry and farm co-operatives in Iceland.

However, Mr Edwards warns farmers against regarding tourism as the panacea that will eliminate all their economic ills. "Tourism has saved many farming communities in North Wales," he says. "But it must be used to supplement their agricultural income, not replace it."

Overseas tourists want a distinctively Welsh experience when they visit the principality. Many have told the WTB that they would like to hear the language more often, as that is what makes Wales distinct from the rest of the United Kingdom. To achieve that, the WTB is pioneering a language pilot scheme in Anglesey.

Called *Croesawiaith Mon*, or Anglesey's welcoming language, it promotes the economic benefits of using Welsh, and hotels, restaurants and shops on the island are receiving grant aid to erect bilingual signs. English-speaking hoteliers are being encouraged to learn Welsh, and at the Trearddur Bay Hotel, for instance, staff have already had tuition.

"Our cultural heritage is our greatest asset," Mr Edwards says, "and we should play to our strengths."



and heir, and since that time it has been the seat of the investiture of the Prince of Wales. Conway is North Wales's best example of a medieval walled town, and it is now being restored to its original glory by the tourist board.

A very different history greets visitors to Wrexham, the

Tourists also come across an unexpected American connection. One of the graves in Wrexham churchyard is that of Elithu Yale, founder of the American university of that name. His name, and hence the university's, is an anglicised form of Ial, the old Welsh name for Wrexham. To mark the connection, Yale

Rural communities are devising ways to compensate for the decline in farming

Seeking fresh fields of opportunity

Agricultural decline and the demographic changes resulting from the brain drain of young people to the cities are causing a crisis of confidence in rural North Wales. Farming now accounts for only 7 per cent of Gwynedd's jobs, and, with fewer people working on the land, communities are seeking other sources of income in order to survive.

Diversification on the farm is a solution for some, while others leave the land to obtain employment in the new manufacturing companies moving in. These options are not open to all areas, however, and so the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) is setting out to help certain key communities to help themselves.

"All the ideas come from local people who organised themselves into action committees," explains Alun Daniel, the agency's rural development director. "Twelve communities in Gwynedd and rural Clwyd volunteered to participate, and since last autumn they have been preparing blueprints to improve their villages' environmental or economic prospects."

In Corwen, in Clwyd, for instance, the action committee has drawn up plans to run a private steam train service into the town, and this month the people of the town are delivering their verdict on it. The train is seen as a means of enhancing the town's tourism potential. The hope is that the construction of a station in the town centre will encourage retailers to refurbish their shop fronts and landscape their surroundings.

At the same time, environmental improvements will be made, so that visitors can be directed to picturesque riverside and mountain walks as soon as they leave the town centre.

The master plan for Denbigh, still being drawn up by the local business community, will focus on the economic implications of the imminent closure of the town's largest

employer, the North Wales Hospital. One response would be to promote tourism by encouraging the construction of more hotels in the Vale of Clwyd, and publicising the medieval castle. Another possibility is improved traffic management, with a one-way

"The ideas come from local people organised into committees"

system to simplify access to the industrial estate.

At Pentrefoelas, in western Clwyd, the planners have drawn on the benefits of new technology. The old school has been converted into a telecommunications and computing

training centre, and almost 100 people have joined its courses. The eventual aim is to enable the villagers to work as computing outworkers for finance companies.

The fourth target community in Clwyd is Chirk, where townspeople are concerned about the effects of a new bypass on retail trade. The craft centre has had to close because tourists no longer drive through the town. So the blueprint will seek ways of attracting visitors back.

Each blueprint is different because each is meant to address the needs of its target community.

There are some common preoccupations, such as a shortage of safe playing space for children. In Gwynedd, three communities, Amlwch, Portmadoc and Pwllheli, all want to refurbish their town centres and make better use of

the surrounding marine environment.

These towns have nothing in common, however, with the Nantlle and Ogwen valleys, districts that have had severe unemployment since the demise of the slate industry. There, the priority is building workshops for the self-employed, together with improving public transport so that people can travel out of their villages more easily to obtain work in neighbouring areas.

To enable these target communities to carry out their development plans, the WDA is prepared to assist them in obtaining funding. Some of the money will come from the agency's own rural development grants, including assistance to convert redundant buildings to new uses. Some will come from other public bodies and the private sector, and the remainder from the European Community.

The EC's Leader programme for funding rural development has already given £5 million to rural areas to enable local people to be trained in new technologies and to assist them to market rural products more successfully. Much of the money will be spent in Gwynedd, where 1,000 craftspeople work, generating £22 million for the local economy.

"In the Vale of Clwyd we are working with Llysfasi agriculture college to improve farmers' information technology skills," Mr Daniel says. "And we are embarking on a major programme throughout North Wales to give villagers access to modern telecommunications equipment."

This programme lies at the heart of Wales's bid for funding from the EC. In partnership with eight other European regions, Wales wants to establish a comprehensive network of information technology resource centres, to be based in

European lessons in language of song

The Welsh-speakers of North Wales are among the 50 million Europeans who speak a minority language. The 1981 census showed that Gwynedd has the highest proportion of Welsh-speakers in Wales, with 63 per cent of the population using the language regularly.

They have had some success in teaching Welsh to interested English-speakers, many of them immigrants to North Wales, and that has impressed continental Europeans, so that many, from Galicia to Brittany, see Wales as a model to follow to strengthen their own minority cultures.

Welsh-speakers are keen to place their language and culture in this broader, European context. The European Centre for Traditional and Regional Cultures (Ectarc), whose function is to broaden Europe's understanding of its wealth of diverse cultures, has its headquarters at Llangollen. Llangollen is also the setting for the annual International Eisteddfod, established in 1947, which has the objective of fostering communication through the international language of music.

This year the eisteddfod will open on July 7, when 2,500 singers, folk dancers and instrumentalists from 47 countries will descend upon the town to parade their skills. They will stay free of charge with local people.

The festival has a tradition of discovering future stars. In 1955 a young tenor called Luciano Pavarotti, on his first visit abroad, sang with the Modena Male Voice Choir in Llangollen. Pavarotti hopes to return as festival president in 1995. In 1968 another tenor, Plácido Domingo, made his British debut at Llangollen.

This year the Queen will open a new marquee at the festival. On July 9 an international concert will be given as part of a series of events being held across the United Kingdom to celebrate Britain's presidency of the European Community.

Wales has shown that education is the key to saving a minority language. Under the national curriculum, Welsh is becoming compulsory in all schools in North Wales. At the same time non-Welsh-speaking families moving into Gwynedd are encouraged to send their children to intensive language-training centres so that they will be comfortable in the predominantly Welsh atmosphere of the county's village schools.

Because of its high percentage of Welsh-speakers, the county is a mecca for students of the language who want to hear Welsh spoken in shops and offices. Some stay at Nant Gwrtym, a formerly deserted village on the Llyn Peninsula, where they can rent a cottage and spend their days receiving intensive language tuition.

Learners in Clwyd have their own non-residential training centre in Denbigh. "Since opening our doors last October, we've attracted more than 1,000 people to our courses," says Heddwen Edwards, a tutor. "We offer a range of knowledge, from

basic vocabulary for beginners to business Welsh. Retailers from Denbigh and Ruthin have recently completed the business course to help them use the language in their shops more often."

Ectarc, which is funded by the European Community, conducts research into shared concerns of those speaking minority languages, such as the effects of tourism, and puts on exhibitions to celebrate the Continent's arts and crafts.

"This summer we're presenting wood-paintings from Nizhny Novgorod in Russia," says Sharon Thomas, the organiser. "Flowers and leaves, richly painted in red,

including works by Hunt, Landseer and Sargent. The paintings are set against Victorian decor, including furniture from the Victoria & Albert Museum and carpets woven to 19th-century designs on Victorian looms."

By contrast, Anglesey's art gallery, which has paintings of the wildlife of Gwynedd, possesses one of the largest collections of the ornithological works of Charles Tunnicliffe, many painted on the island.

There is a collection of modern sculpture to be seen at Glynllifon, in Gwynedd, an 18th-century estate whose walled gardens are being restored by the county council. The council is also re-creating a Victorian garden at Highgate, David Lloyd George's former home at Llanystumdwy. Elspeth Michelson, Gwynedd's cultural director, says: "It will be opened later this month by David Bellamy, and will link the family home with a new museum that contains much of the former prime minister's memorabilia."

On the theatrical front, Theatre Clwyd in Mold is the nearest thing Wales has to a national theatre, producing both the classics and new writing in English; and a permanent Welsh-language company is based at Theatre Gwynedd, in Bangor. Theatre Gwynedd's actors also work for some of the county's 19 independent television production companies. These businesses sprang up after the establishment 10 years ago of S4C, the Welsh fourth channel, which employs 1,000 people and is the largest rural-based media industry in Europe.

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Musical chairs: a Ukrainian musician at the eisteddfod

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Further particulars can be obtained from The Assistant Registrar, The University of Buckingham, Buckingham MK18 1EG, to whom applications (eight copies) with a curriculum vitae including the names of three referees, should be sent not later than Wednesday 15 July 1992.

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La Creme de la Creme: Secretarial Appointments, Property: Residential, Town & Country, Overseas, Rentals, Commercial Property with editorial

THURSDAY

General Appointments: Management, Engineering, Science & Technology, with editorial Accountancy & Finance, La Creme de la Creme: Secretarial Appointments.

FRIDAY

International Appointments: Overseas Opportunities, Motoring: The complete car buyer's guide with editorial Business to Business: Business opportunities.

SATURDAY

WEEKEND TIMES

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SATURDAY REVIEW

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Fill in the coupon and attach it to your advertisement, written on a separate piece of paper, allowing 28 letters and spaces per line. Rates are: 1 pence to 30 pence (Min. 3 lines, only first word in bold), 10 pence to 120 pence (Min. 3 columns, only first word in bold), 10 pence to 120 pence (Min. 3 columns, only first word in bold), 10 pence to 120 pence (Min. 3 columns, only first word in bold). All rates are subject to 10% VAT. Telephone our Classified Advertising Department on 071-481 4000 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday, late evening 5pm on Thursday, or send us The Classified Advertising Manager, Times Newspapers Ltd., P.O. Box 404, Virginia Street, London W1 9JH.

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What is a university for?

Linguists in the office

Working or prospective multilingual secretaries will find much of interest at the London Language Show, which runs from tomorrow until Thursday at the Barbican Exhibition Centre.

Joanna Denham, a consultant with the agency Multilingual Services (Stand 2), says there are three main routes to becoming a bilingual secretary. Some go straight from A levels to do a two-year bilingual secretarial course at colleges such as West Kent College in Tonbridge (Stand A8) or Wolverhampton Polytechnic (Stand B16).

Others might prefer a language degree or a degree incorporating languages, followed by a six-month or year-long secretarial course at a college such as Queen's Secretarial College in London.

A four-week typing course does not make a language graduate a bilingual secretary, Mrs Denham cautions. In today's market particularly, short cuts in training are not worth taking, she says.

Queen's offers an intensive 12-week secretarial course and a two-term or three-term executive secretarial course with language options available. The college also offers a one-year Eurolingual secretarial course where all the teaching is done in a foreign language.

Those who are unable to incorporate a commercial language element into their secretarial training can teach themselves about correspondence layout and terminology

Prospects are good for multilingual secretaries. Clare Hogg interprets the qualifications and plots the career path

with the help of one of the many good books now available. Grant & Cutler (Stand 55) probably has the widest range of foreign language books of all kinds available in the UK. A new variation on the

graduate route to becoming a bilingual secretary is one of the courses that some polytechnics are starting to offer.

Oxford Polytechnic, for example, offers a degree in languages for business, a four-year course incorporating business studies and office skills with overseas placements.

The course prepares students for administrative and managerial support posts. A third path is that followed by many foreigners who come to Britain.

Although their foreign languages are excellent, they often find their English is not up to scratch.

They are competing with English people for jobs in which the foreign

language content is rarely as much as 50 per cent.

The advice to these candidates is to work as waitresses or au pairs to bring their English up to a good standard, before aiming for a bilingual job.

"It's a very difficult market now," Mrs Denham says. "Anybody who is starting will find any previous experience, such as holiday jobs or temporary assignments, very helpful."

Fast and accurate typing and basic knowledge of word processing and spreadsheet software in general are other requirements. "Short-hand is a definite advantage," Mrs Denham says. "It is not a dying art. It is a specification for most top jobs."

For those with good skills plenty of jobs are available in finance. The manufacturing and service sectors



LOUISE LISTER, above, says: "I did languages all the way through school and always wanted to go abroad." She is now a bilingual French secretary for the financial director of Multiserv, a company working in the steel industry.

PROFILE

one of the French Consulate's few English employees.

"I was swept up by the enthusiasm of the French for their country, their extroversion and their passion," she says. "I wanted to live in Paris. I answered an

advertisement in *The Times* and flew over for the interview. Ten eventful years in France followed. "In the end I came back," she says. "Being in Paris was like being on a permanent holiday, and I wanted to buy a flat."

With the development of the European Community, she hopes she will use her French more.



THE LONDON LANGUAGE SHOW

hand is a definite advantage," Mrs Denham says. "It is not a dying art. It is a specification for most top jobs."

For those with good skills plenty of jobs are available in finance. The manufacturing and service sectors

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One of the UK's fastest growing Companies needs a top Personal Assistant for its Chief Executive....

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- ★ to arrange social events (in and out house)

In return we offer a top salary and many company benefits.

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£14,400 - £16,200.

As personal Assistant to the Director the Postholder will have an involved role in the Director's office.

Providing a full secretarial and administrative service for the Director is an important aspect of this job.

You need to have excellent secretarial skills; as is the ability to use your own initiative; work unsupervised; and have good organisational and communication skills.

Other functions of this post include servicing Management and Committee meetings, producing the Trust's Annual Report, and organising public events.

Closing Date: 29th June 1992.

NEWLON HOUSING TRUST IS COMMITTED TO ITS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY AND THEREFORE ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY REGARDLESS OF DISABILITY, SEX, RACE, RELIGION, SEXUALITY OR MARITAL STATUS. ALL CANDIDATES WILL BE EXPECTED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR COMMITMENT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.

Contact the Personnel Officer, at Newlon Housing Trust, 1/7 Lower Clapton Road, London E5 0NS.

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PRESS SEC - Fast mover, mentally agile in both French and English for European quarterly publication. Ideally Mac and/or previous press exp. Not a clock watcher! Start asap. 120-150KF + generous quarterly bonus.

INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS (yes again!) - Seek truly bi-lingual Eng./Fr. sec for French Senior Partner of busy firm. Exp. cas. 150-180KF.

SECRETARY/TRANSLATOR (Bis/Fre) German definite asset. Scientific Research field. Good prospects. TT Mac 120-150KF + quarterly prime.

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST Ideal for fluent undergraduate (6 months to 1 year) or first job needing to practice: WP. Promotion prospects excellent. 120KF.

Newly set up Paris office of major Financial Institution require SPEEDMERCHANT P.A. with dedication and very active brain. Rapid expansion envisaged. 200KF.

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Sheila Burgess

International Recruitment Consultants

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Salary A.A.E.

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Suitable for someone looking for a long term job. Age 30+. Please write a letter about yourself, enclosing any available character references with a full CV and list of references to contact: Lots Road Galleries, London, SW10 0RN.

INTERNATIONAL BREWING BILINGUAL PA £20,000++

Attract the MD of this Int Co. who will give you total involvement in his business affairs, using your superb management and secretarial skills to the full. Diplomatic, fluent French and a working knowledge of Spanish or German. 'A' Levels and 100/60 GCSE.

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ADMIN CONTROL for busy, successful MD. To help with all aspects of office management and to ensure the company is running smoothly. The company is a market leader in luxury products and regards its support staff as essential. The person in the role must be able to handle the day-to-day running of the company, as well as dealing with UK based clients. The person must be able to handle the day-to-day running of the company, as well as dealing with UK based clients. The person must be able to handle the day-to-day running of the company, as well as dealing with UK based clients.

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P.A. to Chief Executive c: £19,000

Chief Executive of quoted Pte based in Mayfair is seeking a P.A. Previous senior level experience, excellent organizational skills essential, as is the ability to work together with a small committed head-office team.

This position would ideally suit someone with shorthand, audio and W.P. skills, together with a sense of humour, and a flexible attitude to work and hours. Please send your C.V. to:

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Acacia Group Pte
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London W1X 1PF

Tel: 071 355 1913

Fax: 071 355 1885

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We are a successful company running busy, well known Restaurants and Wine Bars, including Soho Soho, Bontelli's, Cafe Fish, Chez Gerard and Chumey Mary.

This is an exceptional opening for a self-motivated professional. Good communication skills essential, together with a sense of humour and commitment. Varied duties to include copy typing, admin, co-ordinating of diaries, liaison with restaurants, telephone answering, diary on customer database and general office duties. Excellent presentation and accurate skills (90/50) required, including WP (WordPerfect 5.1 an advantage). Friendly office in W1.

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ECLECTICALLY MINDED? £16,000

This young, fast growing Company requires a multifaceted Secretary with a cool head to join their W1 Offices to work for their Senior Administrator. They must have 120 sh., be numerate and articulate. A working knowledge of Lotus and Microsoft would be useful, coupled with experience in the Medical/Property worlds. A cheerful disposition and a team spirit to join this exciting new Company.

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SECRETARY/PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Mayfair £17-20,000

For busy international executive search firm. To run office, set meetings, word processing & research. Need strong secretarial/communication skills, presence and drive. Please call/write to:

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PART TIME VACANCIES

PART-TIME Word for Windows secretary req'd for long-term time with pension bank. Excellent presentation, strong secretarial/admin background, good WP skills and accurate typing essential. Age 25+. Phone Richard Taylor, Zarak Hay Assoc. (071) 486 9200. (see cons)

SW1 Sec/PA to Director of small international Pte company. Good salary. Tel: 071-524 0175.

ICL Office Power/audio (604) word. Urgent - call Recruiters Hammer on 071 377 6600. Sec/secretary Pte - see secretaries consultants.

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BBC1

- 6.00 CeeFax (52134) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (42168399)
9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series about two long-lost cousins (r) (5332202) 9.30 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares dam croquettes followed by braised pork cocotte and ending with caramelised apple timbales (21641)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6180863) 10.05 Playdays (s) (4310196) 10.25 Stoppit and Tidyp (r) (6183950) 10.35 Beautywise. The first of a repeat series of seven programmes with inside information on the beauty business (4453950)
11.00 News, regional news and weather (9911318) 11.05 Travel Show Guides. Holidaying in Cyprus (r) (CeeFax) (2099711) 11.35 The Hogan Family. American domestic comedy series (4723844)
12.00 News, regional news and weather (7058912) 12.05 Summer Scene. Entertainment magazine introduced by Lara Keating and Linda Mitchell. Today's guests are Frank Bruno, singer Sinitta and former EastEnders Nick Berry (8588202) 12.55 Regional News and weather (6095776)
1.00 One O'Clock News. (CeeFax) Weather (85912)
1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (s) (59768399) 1.50 The Language of Birds. An RSPB film in which Martin Jarvis interprets the language of birds (5976815) 2.15 Knots Landing. West coast spin-off from Dallas (596515) 3.00 Major Dad. Comedy series set on a US Army base (5973750)
3.25 Bazaar. The last in the domestic advice series (9994405) 3.50 Holiday Outings. A self-catering break in a St David's, Pembrokeshire, cottage (r) (4824573)
4.00 European Championship Football. Live coverage of the group 2 game between Scotland and world champions Germany in Norrköping. The commentator is Barry Davies (6320254)
6.10 News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (CeeFax) Weather (674757)
6.40 Regional News Magazines (184844). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
7.05 Neighbours (r). (CeeFax) (s) (509399)



Trading places: Chris Bonington visits Greenland (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Classic Adventure: The Challenge Within.
● CHOICE: Tonight's miscellany of man against nature features self-imposed challenges. With the highest mountains, alpine lakes and the Poles crossed, adventures have to be invented. For mountaineer Chris Bonington and yachtsman Robin Knox-Johnston the challenge comes from swapping skills. On a trip to Greenland there are ice-packed waters to negotiate and a spectacular peak to conquer. The trick is that Bonington will have to learn how to sail through the ice and Knox-Johnston to turn himself into a mountaineer. Their journey could easily have made a programme on its own but, following the format of the series, it is intercut with a selection of other personal challenges, from a cycle ride under a Swiss glacier to older examples dug out of the archives. It is easy to forget the unseen camera crews, without whom these feats would never reach us. (CeeFax) (196)
8.00 Television's Greatest Hits. Phillip Schofield introduces television highlights from 1973. His guests are Rudolph Walker from Love Thy Neighbour and Alan Whicker, who made the year's top two documentaries. (CeeFax) (s) (7775)
8.30 'Allo! 'Allo! Hier Rick injekt a truth drug into Helga with remarkable results (r). (CeeFax) (2660)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. (CeeFax) Regional news and weather (4486)
9.30 Panorama: The Drugs War — A Tactical Withdrawal? Are the police going soft on drugs? (322776)
10.10 Cagney and Lacey. American police drama starring Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly (r). (CeeFax) (838812)
11.00 European Championship Football. Highlights of Scotland's game against Germany and the Holland v CIS match (410478)
11.40 Private Eye. Last in the gunshow drama series set in 1956 Los Angeles, starring Michael Woods and Josh Brodin (306318). Northern Ireland: Greenfingers 12.10am Close
12.30am Weather (1356264)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University: Physics — Vibrations of Music (521775)
7.10 Canadian Grand Prix. Highlights from Montreal (r) (5217486)
8.00 Breakfast News (1243202) 8.15 Westminster (133825)
8.30 Under the Sea. The Victorian yacht 'Medusa', now restored and offering paying guests a chance to sample a luxury life afloat (r) (3805950)
8.50 A Week to Remember (b/w). Patch neverset footage from 1952 (478225)
9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather followed by Storytime (r) (24337973)
2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes (r) (494270) Northern Ireland: Our Roving Reporter 2.20 Harry and the Hendersons
2.45 A Week to Remember (b/w). A repeat of the programme shown at 8.50 (5018047) 2.55 A Day in the Life. Featuring radiographer Pauline Alpin (r) (1494957)
3.00 News and weather followed by Praise Be! presented by Thora Hord (r). (CeeFax) (s) (3481202) 3.40 News, regional news and weather (482631)
3.50 Bodger and Badger (r) (s) (2352009) 4.05 Graveyard High in (2811318) 4.25 Patrick Pata. Episode eight of the 12-part children's drama series (2897738)
4.50 Newsround (5959009) 5.00 Roger Black. Knox Akabusi and John Regis, try the Blue Flag Olympic ring game. (CeeFax) (s) (2283)
5.30 Film 52 with Barry Norman (r) (s) (689)
6.00 The Addams Family (b/w). Classic gothic humour. Last in the series. (CeeFax) (685922)
6.25 DEF II begins with Dance Energy House Party. Normski's guests include Carter USM and Marky Mark (s) (886221) 7.00 Yearbook. Series following a year in the life of a Chicago high school (591370)
7.25 Animation Now: How to Kiss (243221)



The case for Afrocentrism: comedian Leo Chester (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Open Space: Until the Lions.
● CHOICE: The title of tonight's viewer access film is taken from an African proverb. The full version is "Until the lions have their historians, tales of hunting will always glorify the hunter." The argument of the programme is that traditional history books have given civilisation a white face and suggested that Africans have contributed nothing to the development of the world. It challenges this Eurocentric view with Afrocentrism, an attempt to reclaim African history and culture. After all, Africans were the earliest humans and much European culture derived from ancient Egypt, nothing if not a part of Africa. The thesis is propounded by black Britons of African descent, including an academic, a comedian and a housewife. They make a fine case, though the good liberal answer, surely, is to avoid centring of any sort. (CeeFax) (738)
8.00 Horizon: Genes R Us.
● CHOICE: For the last programme in the series Horizon is in end of term mood. Scientific debates and discoveries are put aside in favour of an informal and thoroughly entertaining portrait of a university research laboratory. Dr Paul Sharpe and his team at Manchester are biologists working on embryos. But this is a film about people, rather than their subject, and there are some rich characters. Sharpe is one of them, a New Wave musician with an impressive wardrobe of T-shirts, who runs the department with a shrewd affability. There is Astaris, struggling to complete his PhD, and Louise, who sets off for a conference in Colorado and gets stuck at Gatwick airport. It is a story of dedicated people who love their subject and just wish the government would be more generous with its funding. (CeeFax) (s) (4115)
9.00 Film: Crackers (1984) starring Donald Sutherland, Jack Warden and Sean Penn. Disappointingly flat comedy from the normally reliable Louis Malle about a group of malcontents and their attempts to rob the safe of an irascible San Francisco pawnbroker. (3757)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (356022)
11.15 The Late Show. Includes soldier Ken Lukowak's Falklands war nightmares (s) (765365) 11.55 Weather (145979)
12.00 Open University: The Selling of the New Deal (72784). Ends at 12.30am

ITV

- 5.00 TV-am (r) 7.7595
9.25 Cases. Crossword game show hosted by Tom O'Connor. The guests are Simon Williams and Mary Tam (r) (638486) 9.55 Thames News (528238)
10.00 Out of This World. American comedy series about a teenage girl with an alien father and a human mother (r) (65660)
10.30 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes Anna Souby with advice for new mothers, Cernie Robertson on family matters, and Matthew Kelly introducing viewers' holiday wishes. Includes national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 (4821222)
12.10 Rosie and Jim. Children's puppet series (r) (2517509)
12.30 Lunchtime News with Victoria Owen and Sonia Rusler (Oracle) Weather (6445931) 1.10 Thames News (62972370)
1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial (Oracle) (12044115) 1.50 A Country Practice. Medical drama serial set in a remote Australian outback town (s) (68006370)
2.20 Thames Help. Jackie Sorekley with four campaigners aged more than 60 (5976202) 2.50 Families. Soap linking the north of England with Australia (7546660)
3.15 ITN News headlines (595979) 3.20 Thames News headlines (595979) 3.25 The Young Doctors. Drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital (5976202)
3.55 Cartoon Time with Daffy Duck and Porky Pig (4317028) 4.00 Round the Bend. Caricatures and animation (4327405) 4.55 Chip 'n' Dale — Rescue Rangers. Cartoon (2817592) 4.50 How 2 Facts and Fun series presented by Fred Dinerstein. Carol Vorderman and Gareth Jones (r) (4394641)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (Oracle) (9992842)
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather (668888)
5.55 Thames Help (r) (303757)
6.00 Thames News. (Oracle) (528)
6.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle) (680)
7.00 European Football Championship. Live coverage of the group 2 match between Germany and Holland and CIS. Plus highlights of the afternoon's game between Scotland and Germany in Norrköping 22.05pm
10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Carol Barnes (Oracle) Weather (52641) 10.30 Thames News (933776)



In the news: Julia Somerville brings the headlines (10.00pm)

- 10.40 World in Action: The Muscle Market. A report on the frightening side-effects of anabolic steroids (327825)
11.10 Film: The Possessed (1977) starring James Farentino. Routine television variant on The Exorcist about a defrocked priest who appears at a girls' school to do battle with evil. Directed by Jerry Thorpe (917318)
12.30am Entertainment UK. Leisure time guide (s) (29326)
1.30 Sport AM. Featuring highlights from the Isle of Man TT races (66332)
2.30 Film: The Killing of Randy Webster (1981) starring Hal Holbrook and Sean Penn. Solid, fact-based made-for-television movie about a father's search for the truth after his son is shot dead by the Texas police chasing a stolen van. Directed by Sam Wanamaker (65603)
4.30 Jazz at the Maintenance Shop. Featuring Tour of Power, the band carrying on in the tradition of favourites Chicago and Blood, Sweat and Tears (13764)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Neilson (77239). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 The Channel 4 Daily (1760221)
9.25 Schools (84974028)
12.00 Right to Reply presented by Sheena McDonald (r) (TeleText) (s) (99554)
12.30 Business Daily. News and analysis from the world's financial centres (25467)
1.00 Sesame Street. Children's entertaining early-learning series (r) (48950)
2.00 Film: Lured (1947). B/w starring Lucille Ball, George Sanders and Charles Cullen. Atmospheric thriller about an American showgirl in London being used by Scotland Yard as bait to trap a serial killer. Directed by Douglas Sirk (4792021)
3.55 Zeno Is Overweight. Plasticine animation from Hungary (4308370)
4.00 Garden Club from Gmbsy (r) (TeleText) (221)
4.30 Fifteen to One. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz, presented by William G. Stewart (405)
5.00 Road to Avonlea. Episode four of the serial based on novels by L.M. Montgomery, author of Anne of Green Gables (6486)
6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy starring Bill Cosby (370)
6.30 The Henderson Kids. Australian family film (r) (950)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (TeleText) Weather (431080)
7.50 Comment (640370)
8.00 Brookside. Soap set in suburban Merseyside. (TeleText) (s) (6863)
8.30 Evening Shade. Burt Reynolds stars in the folksy comedy series set in small-town America (s) (5370)



Teenage talk: girls with director Maggie Murray (8.00pm)

- 9.00 Female Parts: Just Thirteen.
● CHOICE: Girls in their early teens are the focus of this week's exploration of the female culture and in particular Hayley, Tammy, Esther and Asha, pupils of a mixed school in north London. Anytime of an older generation may be struck, not to say shocked, by their almost matter of fact lack of innocence and willingness to discuss matters such as pregnancy and contraception which might once have been thought well beyond their age. The school obviously plays its part. Maths and geography may still be on the curriculum but all we see are teacher-led discussions of sexuality and gender stereotyping. Hayley and Esther come from broken families and speak frankly about the strains of trying to cope with their parents' separation during the difficult period of adolescence. Female Parts continues to be a strong series (TeleText) (9047)
10.00 Northern Exposure. Quirky American comedy about an east coast doctor transferred to a remote Alaskan town seemingly populated by eccentrics (s) (572844)
10.35 The Dazzling Image. The second in a series showcasing the work of new British film and video makers. Author Sue Orbach introduces five short films which have the body as the central theme (8762195)
12.05am Talking Liberties presented by Jonathan Ree. Series in which contemporary thinkers discuss the relationship of their work to human rights issues. Tonight literary critic Edward Said, a Palestinian apologist, talks about the country's struggle as well as his writings on political geography (1929626). Ends at 12.50

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SATellite

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● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The Di Ki Show (1977569) 9.00 Mrs Pepperpot (1421788) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (5082115) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (6283) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (17824) 10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (21738) 12.00 54 Below (84134) 1.00pm 5 Street (25534) 1.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 2.00 The Young and the Restless (21738) 2.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 3.00 The Di Ki Show (1977569) 3.30 The Pyramid Game (5082115) 3.30 The Pyramid Game (6283) 4.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 4.30 The Young and the Restless (21738) 5.00 The Di Ki Show (1977569) 5.30 The Pyramid Game (5082115) 5.30 The Pyramid Game (6283) 6.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 6.30 The Young and the Restless (21738) 7.00 The Di Ki Show (1977569) 7.30 The Pyramid Game (5082115) 7.30 The Pyramid Game (6283) 8.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (55134) 8.30 The Young and the Restless (21738) 9.00 The Di Ki Show (1977569) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (5082115) 9.30 The Pyramid Game 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